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Justice

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union  
(ILGWU)

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9-15-1937

## Justice (Vol. 19, Iss. 18)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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## Justice (Vol. 19, Iss. 18)

### Keywords

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

### Comments

*Justice* was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.

# JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL

by the  
GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

Vol. XIX, No. 18, Jersey

September 15, 1937

Price 10 Cents

## PAY SCALE RAISED FOR 3,000 IN N. Y. EMBROIDERY PACT

'66' to Work 32 1/2 Hours in 1939 If Dressmakers Cut Work-Week.

In a whirlwind climax to negotiations with no interruption to production, Local 66 last week signed a new two-year agreement with the Platers, Sitchers and Bonnaz Embroidery Manufacturers Association providing for wage increases, strong enforcement machinery and a 32 1/2 hour week in 1939 should the Dress Joint Board obtain the shorter work week. The new contract covers 3,000 workers in 365 shops in the Metropolitan area.

Weekly wage boosts of \$2 for platers and sitchers, \$3 for embroiderers and tuckers, and \$1 for floor help are now in effect.

Z. L. Freedman, president of the local, and Leon Hattab, manager, emphasized the fact that the new agreement included strong enforcement clauses giving the Union the right to examine books of manufacturers and providing for drastic penalties should employers try to evade their obligations by

sending work to other production sources.

The 35-hour week remains in effect during the life of the new pact. Should the Dressmakers' Union obtain the 32 1/2-hour week in 1939, Local 66 members will have the advantage of the shorter work week in June of that year.

Following the successful completion of the major agreement, the Union went into conference with the Plying Association, representing shops employing 400 workers. There was no expectation of any

difficulty in securing a parallel agreement.

The agreement was ratified by the membership of the local at an enthusiastic meeting in Manhattan Opera House, Friday evening, September 10. Brother Freedman was chairman; Brother Dietz presented the agreement for ratification.

Most of the members of the Union worked Saturday, September 11, to make up for the time lost during the Rosh Hashanah holiday.

## ILGWU LOCALS PLEDGE \$50,000 TO NAGLER BRONX CAMPAIGN

26 Locals And 2 Joint Boards Vote For Aggressive Campaign to Elect Nagler Bronx Borough President — Ninfo Runs for Council.

Stirred by splendid prospects of electing Vice-President Isidore Nagler as President of the Borough of the Bronx in the fast-developing municipal campaign of the American Labor Party, the leaders of the 26 local unions and the two joint boards of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union in Greater New York, met on the afternoon of September 13 in the Council Room of the ILGWU, 3 W.

16th Street, and formed an ILGWU Campaign Committee for the Election of Nagler, with President David Dubinsky as honorary chairman and Vice-President Joseph Brodsky as chairman.

Samuel Perlmutter, manager of Local 10, Cutters' Union, was designated secretary of the Nagler Campaign Committee, and Phillip Kapp, secretary-treasurer of the (Continued on Page 2)

From Pennsy Town Picket Line To The Sidewalks Of New York



Louise Tinney and Edna Woodring Left the Factory Fighting Front in Williamsport, Pa. To Picket the Showrooms of the R & G Knitting Mills at 22 West 32nd Street, New York City, Thursday, September 2. They Were Guests of Local 62 Which Provided Additional Pickets. (See Story, Page 10)

## Greensboro Mfg. Co. Signs Union Contract After Strike

40-Hour, 5-Day Week For 325 Workers Marks Big Improvement In Standards.

GREENSBORO, N. C.—No more slavery in the plant of the Greensboro Manufacturing Co. here, makers of pajamas and

nighgowns. No more \$8 week-by-pay envelopes; good-bye to the 48-hour, 6-day week.

Those schlem conditions went with the signing of an ILGWU contract, August 26, providing for Union recognition, the 40-hour week with no Saturday work, higher minimums and a 5 per cent wage increase.

The contract provides for the abolition of sub-contracting and the making of all work in the Greensboro plant, which employs 325 workers, all of whom now benefit from the new agreement. (Continued on Page 2)

## FLASH!

As this issue of "Justice" goes to press, word reaches us from Cleveland that negotiations are in progress among representatives of the ILGWU, A. F. of L. and the employers to settle the ten weeks' old knitgoods strike. Only a few details were reported as keeping the conferees from a settlement.

Vice-President Kreindler, who has been in Cleveland for the last six weeks in charge of the strike, and Vice-President Rose Pesotta, who has been devoting much of her time to the Cleveland situation, are among those on the Union Conference Committee.

## BIG KNIT MILL IN ILGWU PACT

A closed shop contract providing for a 10 per cent increase in wages and a cut in hours was signed by the Revere Knitting Mill, Malden, Mass., with the ILGWU, September 3. The mill employs 300 workers. The work-week at the mill is cut to 40 hours with time and a quarter for overtime. The contract is a triumph for peaceful negotiation, with the only interruption to work occurring when the workers stopped for a day by mutual consent to ratify the new agreement.

Negotiations were conducted by Jacob Halpern, general organizer, Boston Division, Cotton Dress and Miscellaneous Department, and Joseph Bolrak, ILGWU attorney, under the direction of Vice-President Elias Holmberg, R. Green, president of the Revere and treasurer of the New England Knitgoods Association, represented his firm.

## HOME, SWEET HOME-WORK



"... Close to 18,000,000 Children Are Ending Their Vacations and Returning to Elementary School This Week..."—NEW YORK TIMES.

## LA CROSSE GARMENT 250 WORKERS OUT

Union Stops Company Outfit Maneuver

The 250 workers employed in the La Crosse (Wis.) Garment Industries, Inc., a cotton dress concern, walked out last week demanding a union shop and union work conditions. Vice-President Morris Dineen wired to "Justice."

The strike was declared after persistent efforts to reach a peaceful adjustment with the company had failed. The firm, in an attempt to forestall the Union, was also discovered planning to form a company union in the shop.

The labor unions of La Crosse are cooperating with Local 214 of the ILGWU, the group to which the strikers belong, to win the fight.

## Chicago-Maid Settles

Alvaham Plunkin, General Organizer of the ILGWU in the Chicago area, informs that he signed on September 4 a closed union shop agreement with the Chicago-Maid dress firm employing 75 workers.

# UNDERGARMENT WORKERS MASS FOR GAINS AS PACT EXPIRES

## Seek Wage Increases and Enforcement Clauses. Approve Sick Fund.

Four thousand undergarment and negligee workers jammed both auditoriums in Webster Hall and overflowed into the lobbies and street, August 31, to show their solidarity as the employer associations displayed an attitude of opposition in negotiations to replace the agreement expiring September 26.

Samuel Shere, manager of Local 42, said in commenting on the attitude of the employers:

"We know from past experience that we cannot make substantial gains for our workers without a struggle—and we are ready. Our membership has never been more united, more loyal and more faithful to our Union. With the solid support of the membership and their full understanding of the issues involved, we can only go on to victory."

While the meeting was largely devoted to an analysis of the demands for the new agreement and their approval by the membership, several other important matters came before the big gathering.

### Unanimous Approval

The question of having the local sponsor a sick benefit fund to provide medical care and attention for workers incapacitated by illness was unanimously approved.

Among the other questions on the agenda were: Organization activities in New York and out-of-town shops; Brooklyn organization campaign; evils of the present contracting system; and the New York American Labor Party campaign.

The membership cheered reports on the activities in New York and out-of-town shops and more especially that part of the report from the District Four Department of the ILGWU which gave evidence of an intensive campaign to organize undergarment shops throughout the South. They heard with great interest and applauded vigorously when they heard that the Union had succeeded in stopping all non-union shops in Brooklyn and had brought practically all of them into the Union. In all cases, settlements were made on the basis of the 27 1/2 hours and an all-around increase in wages. This campaign was conducted by a committee composed of representatives of Local 42 and Local 16, under the general supervision of Brother M. Pollakman of Local 16. Business Agents Fanny Shapiro and Fred Hahb took charge of the Brooklyn strikers, most of whom had never been in a union before.

Brother Shere told the meeting that he had appeared before the Negligee Association where manufacturers were fully informed that there would be stoppage in every inside shop guilty of violating our present agreement by placing work in contracting shops not registered with the Union. These shops have been guilty not only of

that violation but have also ignored another portion of our present agreement which requires that no work is to be sent to outside shops until workers in the inside shops have been fully supplied.

### ALP Support

With regard to the American Labor Party Brother Shere said he was certain that the membership not only stands solidly behind the candidates of the American Labor Party, but that each was determined to do her bit to insure the reelection of Mayor Fiorello La Guardia, and of the election of our own Isidore Nagler, Vice-President of the ILGWU, to the Presidency of Bronx Borough. Many thousands will join party branches in their assembly districts and enroll as workers in the campaign.

The list of demands for the new agreement was unanimously approved. Some of the major items presented to the employer associations in the Negligee, Lingerie and allied industries employing 24,000 workers in 300 shops, follow:

Work must be confined to union contractors listed by the Union and designated to the manufacturer. Contractors must be paid sufficient to cover union wages and their overhead. Manufacturers must be responsible for wages and underpayments to contracting shops. No manufacturer may move his factory to any place where the fare is more than 10 cents and no manufacturer may move outside the City of New York. The Union may collect penalties for violations of the agreement with the penalty to be fixed by the impartial chairman. All week and piece workers shall receive a flat 10 per cent increase. Drapers shall receive the same scale as operators. The 35-hour week. All engaged in garment production must be members of the Union.

## Week Strike Brings Pact in Fall River

Fall River, Mass.—Following a seven-day strike, the Merritt Manufacturing Company, makers of cotton dresses and blouses, signed a closed shop contract with the ILGWU, September 2. The firm employs 100 workers.

The agreement provides for a 21 increase in weekly wages for all the workers, a reduction in hours and time and a half for overtime. The period for learners earning 25 cents an hour is limited to 16 weeks after which time the learners are to receive full wages.

William Bess, general organizer, South Massachusetts division, Cotton Garment and Miscellaneous Trades Dept., conducted the strike and negotiations were held under the guidance of Vice-President Elmer Heisler.

## Contributions For Spain

All contributions to the \$250,000 fund being raised by Trade Union Relief for Spain should be sent to:

David Dubinsky, Treasurer, Trade Union Relief for Spain, 3 West 16th Street, N. Y. City.

## "Army Kitchen" Behind Picket Firing Line



These Brooklyn, New York, Negligee Workers Waited Out of the K & F Factory and Walked Right Onto the Picket Line. The Union Has Set Up a "Canteen" Near the Plant Where "Coffee and . . ." Is on Tap All Day Long for the Pickets.

## ILGWU LOCALS PLEDGE \$50,000 TO NAGLER ALP BRONX CAMPAIGN

(Continued from Page 1)  
Dress Joint Board, was chosen as treasurer.

"A Campaign to Elect," Says Antonini  
The keynote of the conference was sounded by Vice-President

### ALP Candidate



Isidore Nagler

ILGWU Vice-President. Whose Election to the Borough Presidency of the Bronx on the American Labor Party Ticket Is Regarded With Strong Optimism By Acute Political Observers.

Lois Antonini when he declared, amid ringing applause, at the outset of the conference that "this is not a campaign for getting a big vote but a campaign to elect our candidate, Isidore Nagler, Borough President of the Bronx on the American Labor Party ticket." This note of confidence was sustained throughout the meeting in speeches by President Dubinsky, Brodsky, Nagler, and most of the other local managers.

Antonini brought out with convincing clarity that, given an energetic campaign, Nagler's prospects are excellent. The Bronx, he pointed out, is populated by a huge working-class trade union element with a mixture of lower middle class voters. These are all natural American Labor Party voters in the current drive of all the progressive and forward looking ele-

## Gem-Dandy Garter Being Organized

MADISON, N. C.—A large percentage of the 140 workers employed by the Gem-Dandy Company, makers of girdles, garters, belts and brassieres here, have signed cards appointing the ILGWU as their collective bargaining agency. An agreement or a strike will face the company shortly.

Despite strong opposition from the firm, weekly organization meetings are held during which the principles of unionism are explained and the record of the ILGWU unfolded. The company is trying to form a company union with scant success.

An attempt to bribe the workers with a 10 per cent increase in wages has failed because they realize that the increase was granted only after organization work began. They attribute the increase to the work of the Union. Mrs. Hazel Fallin, an old employee of the firm, is cooperating with David Atkins, ILGWU organizer, in the unionization campaign.

## First Come First Served . . .

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## BANQUET FOR SHOP LEADERS AS '91' PREPARES DEMANDS

### Celebrates "Little General Strike" Gains In Downtown Market

By way of celebration of the victorious conclusion of the "little general strike" in the Lower Broadway cotton garment market, the Executive Board of Local 91, has invited chairmen and chairladies from more than fifty new shops to a dinner and dance, Thursday, September 16.

The function will be held in the Bohannon Hall, which, appropriately, was the scene of many to-morrow strike meetings.

President David Dubinsky and First Vice-President Luigi Antonio will address the celebrants and officially welcome them into the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

#### Real Reunion

For the majority of chairmen and chairladies, the dinner will mark a reunion of strike captains, there in almost every instance each shop elected its strike leader to serve as chairlady.

Entertainment will be furnished by the strikers themselves. A shop chairlady who, marched on the night line with a violin tucked under her arm, will play once more the familiar tunes that helped to overcome the weariness and strains of two months of daily picketing.

Several unusually informed workers in other shops landed together this morning to up in form an answer card. In this way pickets off duty were able to whittle away the time between assignments by dancing with one another in Bohannon Hall. This hand will play a "return management" when the chairladies come together for the first time since the signing of the agreement.

#### Strike Movies

Motion pictures of the strike will be shown. These pictures will be repeated at a section meeting called for the following week of all members in the downtown area who joined the Union as a result of the strike.

Vice-President Harry Greenberg, manager of Local 91, in discussing the problems facing the Union, pointed out that the agreement expires on December 31 and that consideration was being given to the formulation of new demands, and

a general tightening of shop collective machinery.

He said: "At such meetings there will be an open discussion of the strength and deficiencies of the present agreement, analysis of prevailing conditions in the industry, and a recapitulation of important clauses in the agreement. Every chairman and chairlady has been presented with a copy of the agreement for study and criticism.

At shop meetings members have been encouraged to present their views of the contract and to suggest conditions for the new pact.

"The Union feels that in this way a fair consensus of opinion will be obtained for future guidance." Since these discussions will also center around the Union's policy of proceeding against the remaining non-union shops in the market, workers will be given an opportunity to recommend measures tried and found effective during their own strike. An opportunity will also be given to active members to enlist in the new campaign.

#### New Infant Wear Pact

In this connection it may be pointed out that Local 91 is confronted with another problem in addition to the one just mentioned. The collective agreement in the children's dress and infant wear industries expires on December 15. "Preparations are already being made for the presentation of demands. While it would be pre-

## Hurray For Vacation-With-Pay!



Local 91 Turned Its Third Annual Excursion Into a Celebration for the First Industry-Wide Contract Providing a Week's Vacation With Pay for All Workers. More Than 3000 Members Cramped the S. S. Delaware for Commemorative Cruise. Picture Above Was Taken at the Dock.

ture to speculate on the certainty of an amicable understanding with the industries involved, the Union believes that it is sound strategy to prepare for a general strike campaign, even though the possibility

is quite remote at the present time. Consequently section meetings are being arranged, strike machinery will be oiled and overhauled, and a plan of action will be drawn up."

## GREENSBORO NIGHTWEAR SETTLES

(Continued from Page 1)

#### 6 Months' Campaign

Organization work in the plant dates back to last April when David Aikins arrived in town and started preaching unionism as an antidote to the sweatshop conditions that marred the pretty little town. After long, hard work she had up 99 per cent of the workers who were thoroughly disgusted with their conditions and realized that their only hope of betterment lay in joining the ILGWU.

Negotiations were opened and John S. Martin, general ILGWU organizer, sat in from time to time in conferences with the firm and a committee of workers. The employers were always willing to talk but when it came to necessary concessions they always balked.

Naturally, the firm, untrained in the principles of collective bargaining, tried all the old tricks which had failed everywhere else instead of sitting down to deal with their employees as required

by law. An effort to start a company union led to the ground when the workers displayed little interest in that course. It died entirely when charges were filed with the National Labor Relations Board.

#### Strike Voted

After all peaceful methods were exhausted, with the firm displaying a recalcitrant attitude, a strike vote was taken and the workers walked out August 16. A few reported for work for a few days but they were dismissed by the courage and militant attitude of the picket line. Within 48 hours there wasn't a single worker reporting and the plant closed down entirely.

Negotiations were resumed and an agreement was finally signed with Brother Martin and Sister Aikins acting for the ILGWU and Jesse Goldfarb and Victor Levy, owners of the plant, acting for the company.

The Union victory has been greeted with acclaim throughout the section.

### Greensboro, N. C., Negotiators



Their New Union Contract Was Music To Their Ears. (See Page 1)

## Notice of Changes in Brassiere Pact

Locals 22 and 19 have served notice on the Corset and Brassiere Manufacturers' Association that they will seek changes in the collective agreement which expires November 20.

Abraham Snyder, manager of Local 22, and Samuel Perlmutter, manager of Local 19, acted for the Union. The locals have not yet announced their new demands.

#### "Mitze" Settles

Scranton, Pa. — A contract providing for a 40-hour week and a \$11 minimum wage was signed by the Mitze Bros here with the ILGWU, September 2.

The firm employs 50 workers.

## HIGH STANDARD SET BY ATLANTA IN ITS NEW HEADQUARTERS

### Party, Prizes, Concert Mark Opening Night, Real Clubrooms.

By Joe Lee Walden

ATLANTA, Ga. — A dance and reception that marked the apex of the gayest aspects of the trade union calendar featured the opening of Local 122's new headquarters and clubhouse in the heart of the garment section, Friday, September 3.

The new union home is an eye-opener for most of the Southern organizations, and a constant stream of visitors thronged to the agitation with which it is regarded. The main hall is equipped with comfortable chairs and every facility for holding meetings and the "sidewalk" make the transaction of business easy, but undoubtedly the clubrooms have captured the hearts of the membership.

#### Members Gather

Any evening you can see members meeting each other, listening to the radio, playing the piano, or eating in a friendly hall at 1000 Broadway or just gathering for a chat. One

## Gaiety and Attendance Reach New Heights At Labor Day Week-End.

The Labor Day week-end, marking the high point of the Unit summer season which will run to the end of September, was, in the opinion of old habits of the International's vacation home, the gayest in its long and brilliant history.

The extended, five-day holiday was initiated on Friday evening with the Pine Grove Players' presentation of that appropriate comedy, Arthur Hodge's Broadway hit, "Having a Wonderful Time."

Saturday night's gala concert was a night of stars. The orchestra, with Alexander Obolensky leading the baton, opened the evening. It was followed by the appearance of Robert Weede, of Metropolitan's mainstay, "Pachelbel" and the star of Radio City Music Hall, Madam Rida Kreslo, dramatic soprano from La Scala, Milano, next drew the plaudits of the audience. The presence of Manager A. Ellner's friend and associate of former years, Edy Power, outstanding star of Radio City Music Hall and sensational voice of the radio, proved a stup-

can easily see that our new home will prove of great value in building up the true spirit of unionism and solidarity. Nothing could be better for the encouragement of educational activities.

The gala opening program included a "star" contribution from every shop with a wedding ceremony as the high point. Door prizes included a diamond ring and a beautiful candlewick bed spread.

The hall was bowed in flowers and the refreshment-buffet tables presented an alluring assortment of 140 dishes. A "big hit" jazz band furnished music for the dancing that followed the formal program. But the tangos and thumpas were varied by the Southern Virginia blues and square dance tradition so popular in the South.

show, Madam Ida Kreslo, acknowledged Queen of Unity entertainment, brought this extraordinary program to a close with the singing of her charming and subtle ballads.

#### Sunday Morning

The Sunday morning International Hour reached new heights when the artists of the previous evening returned in informal fashion with a whole hog of refueling the members.

With the musical appetite of Unity guests unquenched, Sunday evening was devoted to a full-fledged assembly concert. This illustrious Alexander Obolensky led an orchestra of forty new to Pine Grove's Unfinished Symphony in B Minor and Tchaikovsky's Marche Slave, thrusting the evening into the realm of high art. The orchestra, and talented young Mrs. Leode, lyric soprano, who sang the "Carmen" from "Rigoletto" and Alaskan "Russian Nightingale."

#### Midnight Supper

Midnight evening festivities were capped in with the showing of the movie, "Kid Galahad." Then, following to expert opinion, followed the most glamorous and gayest hour in the career of Unity. Manager A. Ellner's Midnight Supper period will stand out as some of the happiest hours ever spent in the memory of Unity's guests. Feasting and reveling in the dining hall, gayly decorated for the occasion, were permeated with unabashed hilarity of spirits well into the morning, bringing to a joyful close Unity's most successful annual.

#### Engravers Urge "Peace"

ST. LOUIS — A resolution requesting that "The welder and his family" be recognized as the "most important" of all workers groups, passed on a "united front" and urging reunion of the "great family of labor" was adopted by the International Union of North America, in convention here.

## MONTREAL STRIKERS BRING UNION TERMS IN EMBROIDERY SHOPS

### Dress Makers In Labor Day Parade For 1st Time

MONTREAL — Weekly wage increase, of \$2 to \$5, a union shop, shorter hours and strong enforcement clauses feature a contract fast being a strike called by the ILGWU against the Pleaters, Silencers and Embroiders Association, Bernard Weiss, General Organizer wires "Justice." A few firms employing less than 50% of the workers are holding out.

The agreement, signed September 13 in eliminating homework, gives Union representatives the right to enter factories, health appointments, other clauses to an impartial Chairman and provides for the setting up of minimum scales by a conference committee. It is expected that the employer holds out will fall in line in a few days.

"For the first time in local labor history, our dress makers took part on September 6 in the big Montreal Labor Day parade. Our girls had an impressive float depicting women preoccupied at sewing machines. There were 50,000 local unions in line with some with 5,000 paraders. Our people made a very fine impression."

## MONTREAL CLOAK PACT NOW ALSO BACKED BY LAW

In a wire from Montreal, dated September 8, Bernard Shaw, ILGWU General Organizer, informs "Justice" that the collective agreement between the Montreal Joint Council of the Union and the local coat and suit employers' association has now become "legalized."

Which means that its provisions, in addition to the moral obligation of a contract, are also to be backed by the force of the provincial law which gives the Government authority to regulate wages and working conditions in all businesses.

Under the terms of the Quebec new Fair Wage law, no employer may interfere with the organization of workers for collective bargaining. Interference will be punished by fines and imprisonment.

Executive Board member. In 1928 he was appointed Business Agent and was reelected twice thereafter. He was a conscientious and zealous worker and the welfare of the members always added to his judgment. His death is a great loss to us. Our profoundest sympathy is extended to his family in their great sorrow. His wife and two children, a son of 5 years and a daughter of 17 years, survive him. We shall always have him in memory."

Trade Union Relief for Spain. The Council is now making arrangements to speed up the sale of relief stamps among the members in the mills.



ISAAC BARKINSKY

Isaac Barkinsky, business agent, Local 66, died August 7 after an illness of seven weeks.

Zachary L. Freedman, president of the local, issued the following statement:

"Brother Barkinsky was a member of our local for almost twenty-five years. His loyalty and devotion to the principles of the trade union movement was the respect of all who knew him. For many years he served our union as an



## Wanted... A New Set of Keys

## KNITWEAR COUNCIL REPORTS GAINS AS DRIVE IS SPEEDED

### Twelve Shops Settle — \$5,000 Given to Spanish Labor Relief.

With the organization of the knitwear industry set on its goal during the coming season, Leslie Nelson, manager of the Knitgoods Workers' Union Joint Council, announced last week that twelve knitwear mills have recently shared up granting union conditions as a result of initial steps in the drive.

Among the settled shops are the New Deal, Imperial, B. & S., Pine Tree, Phoenix, Export, Durable, Hygrade, Grohbe, Merit, and Weinstein & Glassheim. The Hygrade and Brohbe strikes were carried on since June, 1936. The Union's pocket list remained firm until both mills were forced to accept union work terms.

The Weinstein & Glassheim concern, a notorious anti-union shop which resisted Union demands most bitterly, finally capitulated.

### Gift to Labor Spain

As previously announced, the Knitgoods Joint Council pledged in July a contribution of \$5,000 for



By Pauline M. Newman

Welcome Home, Dr. Price!

The leaders, members and friends of the ILGWU, as well as the staff of the Union Health Center, are, indeed, glad to welcome home Dr. and Mrs. George Price. They returned on the P.S. Ma-hatze, looking hale and hearty. Here for a short visit to Vienna, where Dr. Price went to observe a labor health center in action. They spent most of their time in France. Dr. Price said to me: "I feel rested and I hope to be able to do my share of work to make the Union Health Center as true a workers' institution as circumstances and conditions will allow."

In the meantime, the Education Department of the Union Health Center is planning to invite the cooperation of the ILGWU education directors to include in their curriculum lectures on preventive medicine and other topics related to the problem of adequate medical care among the wage-earners.

### "62" Votes For a Health Service

In the last issue of "Justice," we reported the action of Local 512 relative to the establishment of a sick benefit fund. It was with a great deal of satisfaction that we report now that the members of Local 62 have, by an overwhelming vote, decided to establish a sickness insurance fund. We in the Union Health Center are glad of Local 62's action. It will answer the call for assistance which comes from their members in time of illness, and will make for a closer association between the member and the Union. We congratulate the members of Local 62 on their wisdom in providing themselves with a health service, a service free from red tape and charity.

### Nurses and the 8-Hour Day

We have heard much opposition to the 8-hour day for nurses in New York City hospitals. The opposition came chiefly from those who would require all social legislation. Our Mayor, however, signed the measure which became effective soon thereafter. The New York State Journal of Medicine tells us that the change in the hours has meant not only the employment of 2,753 additional persons, but has given the nurses' houses which was denied them too long a rest.

The "Brooklyn Eagle" sent a reporter to hear what the nurses themselves had to say about their shorter workday. Here are some of their replies:

"Nurses are in bed... our bath... time to read the paper... and the movies." One of them told

how she got up at 5 o'clock, instead of 4, she had breakfast at home and took her time about it. Then she visited some friends. Then she took a walk and got to work at 3 P.M. "It's a grand world, now all of a piece," another said. "We feel that you are really mad. I've never seen people like this. I have been here for nine years and this is the first real time off I have had. After the new morning I spent I could not be anything or anything." A nurse of another city hospital said: "I got up at nine and ate eggs in peace for once." She said she used to grab a cup of coffee and a roll for breakfast, "some of us 'old timers' can save the feeling of three years with much understanding, making our happiness at our first union victory, when the hours were cut from 70 and over to 54!"

### We Announce

We wish to announce to our members and their families that a new chemotherapy division is being organized in the Union Health Center, details of which will appear in forthcoming issues of "Justice." In the meantime, all those who suffer from this illness are requested to come to the Health Center and learn of the new arrangements.

### We Are Growing

Our attendance this year will exceed that of the preceding year. We are keeping pace with the ILGWU! This is as it should be.

The newly organized workers under the banner of the CIO are bombarding us with requests for information on how to start a Union Health Center — more of them have even asked us to come and organize one for them. They do not know of the broader and heartier one must be ready to endure in order to make an institution of this kind give the service required of it. Nevertheless, it is a great satisfaction to know that the recently organized workers are thinking of a health program.

## CIRCUS GOES UNION

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J. — Another circus has gone union! Friday a closed shop contract signed by the Cole Bros. Circus with the American Federation of Arts, 100 performers and laborers set wage increases.

A minimum of \$40 a month, plus board, transportation and lodging, is established. Announcement of the contract was made by President Ralph Whitehead of the AFL, Ringling Bros. Barnum & Bailey recently signed.

## La Crosse, Wis., Is Seeing These Militant Strikers In Action



The La Crosse Cotton Garment Company Simply Wouldn't Listen to Reason and Bargain Collectively. Now These Workers Are in Front of the Factory Instead of Inside It. They Won't Go Back Without a Union Contract. (New Star)



## SURVEY SHOPS TO FIND JOBS

### Chairmen Warned To Check On Workers

Acting on the decision of Local 22's last membership meeting to establish more stringent shop control and a closer check on working cards and dues payments, Secretary-Manager Charles Zimmerman has instructed the Local's business agents to make a careful survey of all Local 22 shops for the purpose of placing as many unemployed as is possible, and also, to compel the payment of lack dues.

In connection with that measure, the chairmen were warned that they would be called strictly to account if any but bona fide members of the Union were found working in their shops.

#### Letter Sent

The warning was contained in a circular letter sent by Brother Zimmerman urging shop chairmen to cooperate in placing their unemployed on jobs.

The letter follows: "Our business agents are now engaged in a general control of all shops. The prime purpose of this control is to check up upon the general conditions prevailing in each shop and to find out what unemployed members are being placed on jobs. To avoid being in this position, tell us the black and blue of our membership. Tell fully and completely to the Union members who wish to be in the shop and that every member be placed at work once.

"Do not have any members of the Union on good standing, any but in work, your shop. Shop chairmen who are working on this basis, must all have in mind that they are responsible, our best duty, to the Union members who wish to be in the shop. They must be placed first. Shop chairmen must permit non-union workers to enter their shops. Do not instruct all workers to have their membership cards with them, as the union will visit your shop about the next few days to examine everybody's membership card. Your Union will hold every shop chairman strictly responsible for the active participation of this decision."

#### Thanks Josephson

The workers of the Epstein Brothers shop have passed a resolution thanking Brother Maurice Josephson, shop chairman, for his devoted and efficient services. He was presented with a gift and given a vote of confidence for the future. The shop committee consisted of B. Newman, M. Strickman, L. Janigun and K. Horvitz.

## Home Again After Union Vacations



Local 22 Arranged to Have Children of Dressmaker Members Spend Vacation at the Pioneer Youth Camp at Special Low Rates. Mama and Papa Met Them at the Station on Their Return.

## District Meetings - LOCAL 22

**Monday, Sept. 27**

### Outlying Districts

BROOKSVILLE — Executive Labor Evening, 215 Sackman Street.

BOBO PARK — Union Office, 2340-14th Avenue.

WILLIAMSBURG — Amalgamated Temple, 11 Arden Place.

HARLEM — Union Office, 1514 3rd Avenue.

BROOKS — Bronx Office, 265 E. Tremont Avenue.

### Central District

Tues. Sept. 28 — National Delegation — Manhattan Opera House, 24th St. & 5th Ave.

Wed. Sept. 29 — Affiliated Delegation — Delano Hotel, 42nd St. and 6th Ave.

Thurs. Sept. 30 — Popular Delegation — Delano Hotel — 42nd St. and 6th Ave.

**Meetings Start Promptly  
at 5 P.M.**

## '22' ENDORSES SPANISH RELIEF AND CAMPAIGN ACTIVITY FOR ALP

### LOCAL 22 SPORT SQUIDS

By Leo Cohen  
Athletic Director

This summer our Athletic Division can well look upon its achievements with considerable pride.

TRACK: Our track team won plenty of laurels at the World Labor Carnival to take the Graceland trophy. Our girls literally ran away with the meet. Ilya Byms and Dot Tucker proved themselves the class of the field.

BASEBALL: Our baseball team shined up as the dark horse of the league, in defeating Local 35 Winsboro, and other strong teams, the power of the league was "look out for Local 22." Doc Rothman, our outfielder, was one of our shining lights. Morris Vogel led the league in home runs, swatting out six of them. Leo Weiner, formerly a crack third baseman, was converted into a pitcher and batted remarkably well. His four-hitter against Local 35, in which not a single ball was hit to the outfield, proved to be his best pitched game.

SOCCER: Our soccer team played some off-season games against such teams as the Millinery Workers' Union and the Butchers' Union. Its surprising playing against these teams has marked it as the team to watch in the coming fall. Sol Sukia, a new man on our team, proved to be a spark plug to the forward line. Will Bernstein displayed his known good football and proved to be a bulwark on the defense. Our team will open start its fall season. Anyone interested in joining the team may report to Room 56B, 218 West 40th Street.

TENNIS: Our tennis courts were a big success. They were always crowded and our tennis aspirants always had a good time. Sylvia Ostrow, playing her first real tennis, showed off remarkably well. May Freeman is rapidly developing into a player with plenty on the ball. Angela Gutman has come along in great style, and with steady play should be one of our better tennis players.

SWIMMING: Our swim classes were a boon to the heat-stricken members. Many hundreds of them took advantage of our pool and came down to invigorate their selves in refreshing waters. Some sixty girls took lessons. I can re-

## Local 89 Brevities

### Series of Special Sunday Broadcasts For La Guardia and All ALP Candidates

A series of Sunday broadcasts for the duration of the municipal campaign in New York City will be conducted under the auspices of the Italian Dressmakers' Union, Local 89, by First Vice-President Luigi Antonini, State Chairman of the American Labor Party. The program will be devoted to discussions of various aspects of the La Guardia Administration and the presentation of solid reasons for withholding support being given by Labor to the ALP and La Guardia. Antonini will also stress the importance of electing Indore Nader to the Borough Presidency of the Bronx, and will give information about all other ALP candidates.

The broadcasts will begin next Sunday, September 19, from Station WOV (1120 K.C.), 2:30 to 3 P.M., and will continue every Sunday until October 31, at the same hour and from the same station. Choice musical selections will precede and follow Antonini's address. Brother Nathan Remondini will be in charge of the program.

WOV is known as the "Italian Station" in the metropolitan area and commands an audience of several hundred thousand listeners in New York City alone. The hour of the broadcast has been so timed as to reach Italians in their homes right after their Sunday meal.

## Central District Meetings

Overwhelming audiences gathered at the Manhattan Opera House for the membership meetings of the Central District Branch, which started with the "AMTRED" shops, September 8.

The report submitted by General Secretary Luigi Antonini was unanimously approved, after which, votes in which members participated with constructive suggestions.

Announcement of the Union stand in favor of Mayor La Guardia's reelection met with tremendous applause, duplicating similar demonstrations at previous meetings in the outlying districts. Great enthusiasm was also shown for the list of American Labor Party candidates, headed by Vice-President Indore Nader, selected for the Borough Presidency of the Bronx.

## He Is 54 Years Old

Local 89's "Big Chief," Luigi Antonini, was feted by the staff of the Local on the occasion of his 54th birthday, last Sunday, September 12, at a "district" dinner at Edwards' Inn, Elmont, L. I. It was a real family gathering, during which almost all those present had something to say in praise of the guest of honor and his remarkable contributions to the success of the Dressmakers' Union.

A surprise of the event was the arrival of the painter, Tony Teleboni, a former member of '89, who presented Brother Antonini with a beautiful portrait to wit that "For once, Antonini had no looks 'just like him."

## Now On Eastern Hook-Up

"The Voice of Local 89"  
The Most Popular  
Italian Radio Hour

Symphony Orchestra and  
Opera Singers of International  
Fame

### DRAMATIC SKETCHES

#### LUIGI ANTONINI

First Vice-President, ILGWU,  
and General Secretary of  
Local 89

In his weekly comments on  
labor and political events

Also Other Speakers on  
Timely Labor Topics

EVERY SATURDAY MORNING  
from 10 to 11 on Stations

WEVD (1200 K.C.) New York  
WRAX (520 K.C.) Philadelphia  
WELI (500 K.C.) New Haven  
WCOF (1120 K.C.) Boston

(Daylight Saving Time)

port that most of them are doing well enough to swim the entire length of the pool easily. Frieda Rice, who would hardly miss a swimming session, has lately taken to trick dives off the diving board. Lilya Florent has reached a point where she does a handspring off the board into the pool.

## Twin Sister And Dressmaker Bride



All the Workers of the Majestic Dress, 118 West 22nd Street, Joined in July "Wedding Banquet" for Eugenia Di Vincenzo, Eugenia's Twin Sister, Magdalena, Is Shown Kissing the Bride-To-Be.



# In the Cloak Joint Board

## NEWS OF THE NEW YORK CLOAK UNIONS

### THE INQUIRING CLOAK REPORTER

Minute interviews with cloak makers on points of interest.

#### THE QUESTION.

In the 1937 agreement working out up to expectations in your shop?

#### THE ANSWERS.

**Joe Zelenfsky, Local 117, Operator:** "Although it is too early to get a clear idea of the agreement over all the points in the new agreement, the atmosphere in the shop is optimistic over the improvements and we all feel that the increases have made a real difference in our pay envelopes."

**Sadie Ratinsky, Local 9, Finisher:** "It certainly is. Our pay is much higher and we expect more work than during the old agreement. There is more activity now because the jobbers are responsible for the workers of their shops. This clause alone has raised the morale of the cloakmakers all over."

**Living Hatch, Local 16, Cutter:** "I believe that the manufacturers themselves are more careful to adhere to the conditions of the agreement because of the heavy damages that they will have to pay for violation."

**Louis Gordon, Chairman Local 22:** "The workers of the skirt and sportswear industry are experiencing a very good season. The increase in pay and provisions keeping production in New York have elevated the standards of our workers, giving them a more optimistic outlook."

**Harry Shepard, Local 35, Presser:** "Prices for every phase of production are much higher since the agreement was signed. The workers realize that the contract is the best yet enforceable and feel much more secure than in previous years. I think with more work the agreement will show to even better advantage."

**A. Calabrese, Local 45, Operator:** "The conditions of the trade certainly are better. We now feel confident the work will stay in New York. And our pay so far is much higher. There is more security among the cloakmakers as a result of the strong controls the new agreement has brought us."

## Coat Recovery Board Praises Union's Help

In the course of the sessions of the national meeting of the National Recovery Board of the Coat and Suit Industry, held last week at the Hotel New Yorker, the Cloakmakers' Union came in for tribute from many quarters for the industrial statesmanship its leadership has displayed since the inception of the Recovery Board in 1935. In the opening address of Alexander Prins, Chairman of the Recovery Board, special mention was made of the vital role played by the Union in the progress of the organization.

Characterizing the Union's policy as one of "super-efficiency" and understanding of workers' needs in terms of their advances as they fit into the progress of the industry, Bertram Reinitz, who has played a leading part in the movement for stabilization in the coat and suit industry, declared that "With the aid of labor, efficiency functioning stabilization machinery has been developed in this industry."

Going further, Mr. Reinitz remarked that "the attitude of the leadership of the Union toward this (stabilization) movement speaks the enlightened program that has been made in worker-employer relationship in this industry."

These leaders are aware that depressed selling prices breed standard labor conditions. They know that the price weakness in the industry is responsible for the heavy labor turnover — for the logic of workers ousted from their jobs by the forced liquidation of the firms employing them. They know, too, that greater power carries with it greater responsibility. In an industry such as this, a powerful Union cannot permit the weaker employers' groups to shift for themselves. Anyone even casually familiar with the comparative strength of capital and labor in this field must realize that the latter has a residue of force and vitality that can and must be projected for stabilization purposes, beyond garment trade employers to the retail field, especially when that field is responsible for slumps that react against the welfare of workers.

"The cloak union, which has pioneered many reforms in worker-employer relationships, is unquestionably placing a trust that will have to be followed by other labor organizations when they succeed in dominating their industry to the degree that the cloakmakers' union holds sway in this trade."

## PRICE SETTLEMENTS NEAR COMPLETION

### Stenzor Reports Quick Settlement of Industry Despite Accumulations And Complications.

In view of the unsettled atmosphere that prevailed in the industry at the time the 1937 collective agreements were signed, the rapid settlement of prices, at the present time entirely completed except for Bros doing a late season trade, is little short of amazing. Under the guidance of Irving Stenzor, Manager of the Price Adjustment Department, business agents of the Joint Board, working at full steam, have settled prices for operators and finishers affecting approximately 1200 firms.

The comparison price settlements, payrolls and order blanks, a routine matter under the agreement, will serve as a valuable check for Union control. Having been approved by Brother Stenzor, as they come in, settlement lists are further checked with payrolls and order blanks to see that the prices agreed upon are actually paid. Shops are further invoiced to make certain that the garments produced are the same as those settled. Brother Alkin, of the union office, has already started on the last-mentioned means of control.

## LANGER APPEALS TO CLOAK WORKERS FOR 'AUTOMAT' STRIKERS

Less warm appeal in behalf of the striking "Automat" workers, to all members of the Cloakmakers' Union in Greater New York, Louis E. Langer, secretary of the Cloak Joint Board, has asked the 35,000 men and women affiliated with the eight locals belonging to the Board to give the cafeteria strikers their unstinted support.

Langer stressed in his call to the cloak workers the fact that the Horn & Hardart firm, which operates the "Automat," has obtained

## 'MANNISH-SUIT' FIRMS STOPPED IN NEW YORK

### ACWA Joint Board Co-operates With Cloak Union To Check "Over-lapping."

Four important New York clothing firms, manufacturing "mannish suits," were stopped last week by order of the Amalgamated Joint Board in conformity with an understanding reached with the Cloak Joint Board to undertake definite measures against the spread of the production of ladies' coats in Amalgamated shops.

These firms are: William I. Nathan, employing seven cutters, Amador Clothes, with six cutters, Anselwitz & Shapiro, five cutters and Taylor-Bros, 2 cutters. The cutting rooms quit, by order of the Clothing Cutters' Union, Local 4 on Friday, September 10, while the contracting shops of these firms were stopped on Monday, September 13. The number of workers involved in the contract shops is estimated to be about 150.

Directly concerned with the stoppage, as mentioned, are the Cloak Joint Board, the Amalgamated Joint Board and the Overlapping Office attached to the ILGWU central headquarters, of which George Wolsky is in charge. The terms of settlement will be determined by these three groups jointly, it was declared.

It refused collective bargaining, fair work conditions and has taken a bitter anti-union stand.

"The Horn & Hardart Company," Langer says further, "maintains a number of cafeterias in the garment district, where lots of their sales of our workers are employed. There are in that district many union eating houses where food is prepared and served by union people. Do not spend your nickels and dimes on 'Automats' at this time and hurt the interests of the strikers."

## \$50,000 Pledged for Nagler Bronx Drive

"Continued from page 21

to rebuke Mayor La Guardia and the other A.L.P. candidates in all the boroughs.

The money will be raised at once by popular subscription among the ILGWU membership in the Greater City. It was decided, and steps to that effect will be taken, at once. The ILGWU Nagler Campaign Committee, it was voted, is to convene immediately special headquarters in the Bronx, from where the trade union activity will be directed in the entire borough.

A general meeting of all business agents will be summoned next week to map out detailed plans for the Nagler campaign. The candidacy of Vice-President Nagler for membership in the Council from the Bronx on the American Labor Party ticket, which will also be assisted to the fullest extent by the ILGWU Committee, is expected to strengthen the Nagler drive.

In addition to the above-mentioned officers of the committee, the conference appointed a steering committee consisting of all the leading local managers to keep in constant touch with the active campaigners in the Bronx, and to lend them every possible assistance. The steering committee is composed of the following: Isidore Antelman, Louis Levy, Isidore Jacoby, Rosine Davis, Charles Zimmerman, N. M. Shafroff, Harry Greenberg, Harry Ward, Joe A. Valicenti, Max Cohen, Samuel Shere, Sam Metz, Joseph Tutin, Louis Rites, Charles Krievind, Abraham Sander, Louis Lander, and Morris Feldman.

**Joint Board**  
"Releases" Nagler  
In recognition of the agency of

the present political campaign, the Joint Board, at its September 5 meeting, granted General Manager Nagler a leave of absence for the duration of the campaign. Appearing before the Joint Board on behalf of the ILGWU Committee for the Election of Isidore Nagler, Vice-President Joseph Brodsky, urged the delegates to release their chairman from his office duties on 14 November 22. Brother Brodsky gave a graphic picture of the aid Nagler would lend to the Bronx A.L.P. organization, and, after a motion from the floor, his request was approved by acclamation.

## Baltimore Cloak Market Now 100% Union



With the Signing of the Louis Marcus Corporation Agreement (Shown Above) the Open-Shop Front in the Baltimore Cloak Market Cracked. Today Baltimore is a 100% Cloak Union City. There is Only One Non-Union Shop, The American Cloak Company, Now Tied Up By a Strike.

# In Missouri, Texas, Arkansas and Kentucky Shops

By Meyer Perlstein  
Southwest Regional Director

## Wages To Fore In St. Louis Parley

The conference with all-dress manufacturers for the renewal of the agreement are in full swing. The fight is chiefly for an increase in wages. The workers insist that they have not received a wage increase in the last 2 or 4 years. The cost of living has gone up substantially and the pay-envelope must contain more money to meet this increased cost. The manufacturers contend that the "economies" of this industry in St. Louis permit no such increase. Finally, after long "conversations," the manufacturers agreed to consider a slight increase for the cutters, but they still refused to consider an increase for the other workers in the industry.

The conference also continue with Elv-Walker Dry Goods Company for the renewal of the agreement.

In the cloak trade in St. Louis conditions seem to be not too prosperous. While the cheaper line manufacturers have some work the workers, employed on the better grades have had a very dull season up till now.

## Kansas City Locals Going In High Gear

The different trades under our jurisdiction in Kansas City are busy and our organization, as a whole, is running smoothly and prosperously.

Brother Berkowitz, who has been in Kansas City for several months, is using all the skill that he acquired during the quarter of a century as business agent of Local No. 11 in New York in adjusting difficulties that arise on a constructive basis. So does Ware Todd. The active members in the Union are also on the job and are doing their work cheerfully and consecratedly.

The temporary injunction secured by the Donnelly Garment Company in that city against our Union is coming up for a hearing soon. The Union is well prepared to prove the justice of its fight for the right of collective bargaining and for the right of a union organization in that shop.

## A Fight of Endurance In Dallas, Texas

The strike against the Sheba Ann is continuing. The National Labor Relations Board, as known, has issued a decision against the firm, but the manufacturers are fighting this decision and are on the alert for every technicality to keep off collective bargaining from that city.

The Dallas dress manufacturers are not only active in fighting our Union but they are just as active in helping the local military employers to fight the Military Workers' Union, which recently called a general strike in that city in the case of Sheba Ann. The National Labor Relations Board in Washington has decided to have an additional hearing on certain phases of the case. We expect that the new hearing will take place soon. For one thing, as many hearings and as many obstacles and as much patience as the manufacturers in Dallas are willing to display in their fight against the Union, we are ready to match them any time, anywhere and as long as it may be necessary.

## Proper Scale For Suits in Houston

Some of the manufacturers in Houston, Texas, believing apparently that the cotton dress wage scale is also applicable to suits, have begun to manufacture suits that they sell for from \$2.15 up to \$6.75 per

## Coronation Days Come Again To St. Louis



Local 182's Cotton Dressmakers Do Things in Royal Style. Once Again They've Crowned a Queen and the Memory of the Gay Occasion Is One of the Highlights of Union Life in the Mound City.

garment. They still expect, however, the girls to work for \$12 a week, and the Union is now taking steps to make the manufacturers realize that when workers work on suits, a suit wage scale must be applicable. Brother Sam White is at present in charge of the Houston local. Sid Goldberg, the former manager, had to leave on account of illness.

## New Hope for Mexican Workers in San Antonio

The agreement we have with the Shirlee Frock is gradually being put into operation. The shop will soon be completely unionized.

The other Mexican workers, who work for other firms, are gradually being inspired with new hope, and we expect soon to be able to sign an agreement with the Texas Insulated Wire. At any rate, the manufacturers in San Antonio begin to realize that unionism has come there, and if an agreement can't be reached through peaceful discussion, the workers are ready to go on the picket line.

Our Union in San Antonio greatly appreciates the active support of Congressman Maverick of San Antonio, who, from Washington, helped us to win the Shirlee strike and is giving us such fine support now to establish fair working conditions in the other shops.

## We Are Growing Fast in Memphis

One of the shops in Memphis had to close down because of business reasons. The workers of that shop are being gradually absorbed into the other shops. The earnings, generally, are being improved.

Recently we organized a new local of alteration workers in Memphis. A group of intelligent girls working in one of the large department stores in the city have joined and the job of organizing the rest of the workers is proceeding apace. Memphis in general has become favorably known for the cooperation which exists there among the labor organizations. It was beautiful to watch on Labor

Day how the trade unionists affiliated with the CIO and those affiliated with the A. F. of L. jointly celebrated and paraded shoulder to shoulder. The carpenters carried their banner: the garment workers, theirs, and the parade was so impressive of labor unity that the Mayor of the city joined the parade, marching with other city officials, to the steps of the music.

## Henderson, Ky., and McLeansboro, Ill.

Our locals in these two cities are making wonderful progress. It is gratifying to see the fine spirit existing among the workers, and it is still more gratifying to see the improvement in the pay envelopes of the workers. Sister Ruth Miller from St. Louis is in charge of these two locals.

## Baltimore Firmly On Cloak Union Map

The workers in the shops of the Louis Marcus Corporation, of the Pioneer Cloak Company, of Silver

stein and Schlosser, and of S. Cohen & Sons are uniting at a fast pace. Some of the shops are already completely unionized. The different locals that were, recently established for the workers employed by these manufacturers have already had their installations.

The strike that we conducted against the S. Cohen & Sons firm was settled two weeks ago. The agreement provided that the firm is to have a strictly closed shop in Baltimore as well as in their out-of-town shop. The strike called against the American Cloak Company is still in progress. I recently had a conference with the members of that firm and hope that this firm will also realize that the day of free lance at the expense of the workers is gone and that this firm could never hope to continue "open shop" work conditions in their out-of-town factory.

The entire Baltimore office of the Union has been reorganized, new secretaries and clerks put in charge, additional business agents selected, educational and recreational activities developed, and there is no doubt in my mind that Baltimore will soon have a fine organization.

## In Tupelo, Miss., and Forrest City, Ark.

A local of our International is beginning to function in Tupelo, and the local workers, under the leadership of our International, are also gradually acquiring the courage to fight for the right of free organization.

The manufacturers in Tupelo are also beginning to learn that they may chase out some organizers on an occasion, but they cannot chase out our International. We are in Mississippi for good, and the quicker the manufacturers will appreciate it, the quicker will industrial peace, based on constructive and intelligent lines, be established in that town.

The complaint we have filed with the National Labor Relations Board against the Mold-Well Garment Company in this town is coming up for a hearing within the next couple of weeks. The workers in Forrest City have been patient enough, goodness knows, and this week at a conference with the National Labor Relations Board we told them that they can not delay the hearing any longer. We hope that the Mold-Well firm will soon learn that the laws applicable to all American citizens are also applicable in the State of Arkansas.

## Southern Labor Will Not Be Daunted By Sweatshop Carpetbaggers



# Third Party Echoes from Washington

By Henry Zan

(Special Correspondence to "Justice")

SINCE the adjournment of Congress, and as a result of its failure to pass progressive pieces of legislation, there has been in Washington increasing speculation as to the possibilities of a third party in the 1940 presidential elections.

This speculation is caused by two things. They are the growing belief within the ranks of the Democratic party and the growing dissatisfaction with the President and the administration on the part of organized labor. The third party gunners are divided into two groups, those who believe or are afraid that the President will nominate Teddy Roosevelt and go out for a third term on a new party slate, and those who believe or are afraid that the Committee for Industrial Organization will throw the support of its millions to a progressive third party group.

Feeding speculation are a number of signs, not yet definite enough to warrant the reactionary hanging out the storm signals, hints of what the future may hold in regard to the hottest of speculation is the realization that 1940 is still three years away, that Congress in 1938 may learn a drastic lesson in political fidelity at the polls, and that events more swiftly bring unforeseen changes to the face of Congress.

From the Roosevelt versus Democratic party angle the straws in the wind are the President's Roanoke Island speech and the radio speech of Sen. Joseph Guffey of Pennsylvania on the eve of the adjournment of Congress.

The Roanoke Island speech, it will be recalled, was the occasion on which the President dubbed his foes "Lord Macaulays," renewed his attack on groups such as the United States Chamber of Commerce, the Liberty League and the National Association of Manufacturers, and proclaimed the opposition to the Democratic party was all the more remarkable because of the occasion which called for little more than a presidential address and the utterance of presidential platitudes.

Political crystal-gazers see in the future more of the same. On September 17 the President is to make a Constitution Day speech and on the battlefield of Annapolis. Both these speeches, it is claimed, are summaries along the Leard Macaulay lines.

It is true that in these speeches there is no word concerning anything like a ramp movement, such as was led by Teddy Roosevelt in 1912, but continuity of the demand on the part of the Democratic party for progressive legislation and continuance of the attacks upon those opposed to such legislation make the Democratic party for small a word for the New Deal and the "regulars." Presidential tactics now are to make the Carter Glasses, the Pat Harrises, the Josiah Ballers, the Cotton Ed Smiths and the rest of the motley crew play ball or move off to some other field.

If the President has any third party thoughts, and it is not at all certain that he does, they are concerned with consolidating his own forces within the ranks of the Democratic party and forcing the opposition forces outside the fold. That he has begun the job of consolidating his own forces is indicated by his actions following the collapse of the fight for the Supreme Court bill.

Within the month the President cruised down the bay in his yacht with Gov. Platt and Sen. Bob La Follette of Wisconsin, both staunch progressives and wearers of the mantle of their father, "Fighting

Bob" LaFollette. Gov. Frank Murphy of Michigan and Sen. Green, a newcomer from Rhode Island. In addition, there has been talk in the Senate of the growing alliance between Sen. Bob LaFollette and the President. It is a fact that LaFollette is one of the few able to pick up the telephone and get through to the President without interminable delay.

What the discussion between the President and his cruising visitors was, no one has yet been able to find out. The presumption is, however, that more was discussed than the weather and the mules of the boat.

The Guffey speech attended to the other side of the picture. Speaking as chairman of the Democratic senatorial committee, he demanded that renegades such as Wheeler, O'Mahoney and Burke be read out of the party. "There they are," Guffey said, in effect, pointing the finger of scorn. "Go get 'em."

Responsibility for the Guffey speech was promptly denied by all the officials of the Democratic party and the information was let out that Guffey paid the \$50,000 for the radio time out of his own pocket. In spite of the disclaimers, the renegade Democrats were shaken by the Guffey speech and the "no reprisals" promise of Jim Fawcett, allegedly given them, seemed slimmer than before.

On the side of a third party movement, coming from the ranks of the laborers, there are more definite straws in the wind and a stronger wind. In the first place there is the revival of Labor's Non-Partisan League as an energetic body, moribund under the uninspired guidance of George Berry. The League has now embarked on an intensive campaign of political activity with particular attention to the farm states and the political alliance of workers and farmers.

In the second place there is the driving American Labor Party with a record of achievement as ready written and prospects brighter. In the New York City elections, as viewed from here, LaGuardia will be elected or defeated at the will of labor and, if elected, cannot

in good conscience turn his back upon his friends.

In the third place there is the growing political activity on the part of labor in the middle western states as evidenced by the smashing primary victories in the Akron municipal elections, in which labor's candidate for mayor polled more votes than all the other candidates combined, and the intense political campaign going on in Detroit with the United Auto Workers as the potent factor in the mayoral campaign.

Back of this entrance by labor into the political arena is the growing feeling that politicians' promises are not to be relied upon. Following the death of the wages and hours bill, John L. Lewis, chairman of Labor's Non-Partisan League, remarked that leadership of the Democratic Party had been challenged "either to restore sufficient party discipline to permit government to function under their guidance or confess that their party is not the vehicle by which the people of the country may progress to a solution of their pressing social problems."

That statement was followed by a speech in which the President was reminded that he had "sneaked" at labor's table and "steal" in labor's house yet deserted labor when a test of his fidelity arose. Governor Davey of Ohio, who was elected through the support of labor yet turned national farmhands upon labor's home at the bidding of Tom Gilder, was also spoken of in severe terms. In fact, so strong was the language in Lewis' speech describing Davey that the broadcasting company requested changes.

But one swallow does not make a summer and these few hints do not herald the coming of a third party. Allegiance of farmers and middle class workers to the cause of labor is needed before a party based upon the strength of labor can hope to become more than a minority group in the political arena.

How important the farm belt is to any political party seeking power is fully realized by the Chamber of Commerce, the National Association



A Heavy Load Makes a Long Road.

of Manufacturers and the Liberty League. Recently, in Des Moines, Ia., a conference of leaders of various farm organizations was held. At the conference, which was sponsored by the manufacturers association, the old line abuse high wages for farm labor making prices high for the farmer, was handed out. Farm leaders were told to go home and rouse the embittered farmers to a crusade against organized labor.

At the Des Moines conference was one chap, boozing he has the support of Henry Ford, passing out literature explaining the workings of the world and proving, through the Protocols of Zion, that Jews lie at the root of all evil. Some of the farm leaders fell for the stuff but, according to reports, a number of them went away more convinced than ever of the necessity of strengthening the political alliance between worker and farmer to send such creatures as the Ford agent scuttling back beneath the rocks whence they came.

Stiles as shop chieftain of the Gary Garment Co.

SPECIAL MACHINE operators were successful in a victorious effort to win 1150 back pay, which is to be equally divided among 40 girls.

## CIO in Dixie

Away down South where we weave that cotton,

Union men are not forgotten; Look ahead, look ahead, look ahead, union man.

In the days gone by when they had their way We used to hear the bosses say, Look away, look away, look away, working man.

## Chorus:

But the CIO's in Dixie, hurry, hurry, The CIO's going to Dixie, Away down South in Dixie, Oh ho, oh ho, the CIO's in Dixie. Oh ho, oh ho, the CIO's in Dixie.

Now we're all together in the CIO

They cannot keep our wages low, Look ahead, look ahead, look ahead, union man.

For the time has come when we take our stand With union men throughout the land.

Look ahead, look ahead, look ahead, working man.

From "Union Songs" collected by Merrimack Local TWOC, Alameda.

## In the Chicago-Illinois District

By Lucille Cerowski

LOCAL 238 held their beach party and picnic at the Well Street Beach, in Miller last month. All members were present.

LOCAL 71 held their annual picnic outing in Morton Grove, Ill. Representatives from Local 238

were present. Games were played, refreshments were served. Dining began at 3 o'clock and lasted till 9 P.M. Baseball games were also a part of the day's enjoyment. Representatives from Local 238 were: Miss Sara Jane Marsalek, president of Local 238; Mrs. Jessica Davis, vice-president; Bertha Neller, Eleanor Zurich, Sabina Hlodzki and Lucille Cerowski.

MRS. SARA JANE MARSALEK, who has been ill for quite some time, is back again to resume her

## ILGWU's Michigan Pioneers



Here Are the Disciplined ILGWU-ers Who Brought the Wolverine Knitting Mills at Bay City, Michigan, to Terms After a 100%-Effective 10-Day Strike. Their Contract Was the First Signed by the ILGWU in That State.



# In the "Little International"

By Harry Wander, V.P.  
General Manager Eastern  
Out-of-Town Dept.

For the last few weeks, the Eastern Out-of-Town Department has been engaged in a number of strikes which we consider of the utmost importance for the results of these strikes may affect not only our department but the entire industry as well.

It is true that our department conducts strikes practically every day of the week in many shops to compel the employers to live up to their agreements but the strikes called in the non-union shops are a result of our organization drive.

However, the strikes which have been called during the last couple of weeks are very important because these shops are located in territories which have heretofore not been touched. These employers have always felt that they never would be reached.

Some of these shops ran away from New York fifteen and even twenty years ago and fortified themselves by exacting promises from the town authorities to protect them from the Union.

However, times have changed and even those places are no longer secure for the workers themselves have been awakened.

I will not enumerate all the strikes in detail but I will mention a few.

## Monmouth Dress Out New York Plant Stopped

The history of the Monmouth Mfg. Co., Long Branch, N. J., is known to everyone connected with the cloak and dress industry. Originally this shop manufactured skirts but when dresses were introduced into the market, they began manufacturing dresses. They ran away to Long Branch and were operating a non-union shop.

Several attempts were made by the Union at various times to organize this shop but without success. The employer terrorized the workers and threatened to close down the factory. Since the workers were inexperienced and unaware of the tricks used by every employer when workers ask for a better wage, they became frightened and told themselves that they would rather accept the conditions as they were than lose their jobs.

The town officials, unfriendly to labor, used the employer state-ments to frighten both the workers and the town authorities. This official attitude to defeat the efforts of our organization.

Since then, times have changed. Now those workers who always believed the statements made by the employers and the Chambers of Commerce have realized that they want better conditions and security which can be obtained only by joining the Union. Through our efforts, 25 workers of the Monmouth shop revolted and went out to strike, Wednesday, September 14. The next morning six more workers joined the strike and in the afternoon an additional 31 joined. At the present time there is a solid body of 57 strikers picketing the shop, carrying signs and banners, drawing the attention of the entire town.

After the writer addressed a meeting of the strikers it was reported that the manager sent his agents to visit the strikers at their homes. These agents told them that the same manufacturer had a shop in New York under the name of the Star Maid which would never be stopped and that all the work would be made in New York

## New York Cooperates

We assured the strikers that the New York workers are in sympathy with our cause and as soon as arrangements could be made that shop would be stopped off. On Friday morning, the Joint Board of the Dressmakers' Union led up the inside factory, the Star Maid, its contractors. We sent eight of the New York strikers to Long Branch to continue the workers there that they had been forced long enough and that they would not return to work until the firm agreed to have a union shop.

The strike is now four weeks old. The factory in Jersey as well as the showroom in New York is being picketed and we expect that "this time too" firm will be compelled to give in and sign up.

same true, but not for very long. After staying there for one year, he found that the same Union and to his surprise, the workers who had always been reluctant to join the Union, went out on strike for better conditions. The firm was ready to give the workers increases in wages, provided they did not join the Union. But this time the workers answered that they had been forced long enough and that they would not return to work until the firm agreed to have a union shop.

The strike is now four weeks old. The factory in Jersey as well as the showroom in New York is being picketed and we expect that "this time too" firm will be compelled to give in and sign up.

In the agreements that is worthy of being quoted is full:

Should a strike occasioned by the General Executive Board of the International Ladies' Garment Workers of America be considered a success by the members of the Union working in this industry, until such time as the strike in the general industry is satisfactorily terminated, it is agreed between the firm and the Union that if any new standards of work arise in the general industry, the firm and the Union, in the event, the firm and the proper representation of the Union, will negotiate for the establishment of said standards on the firm's own and make the maintenance of such standards a condition of this agreement.

Workers have never achieved any gains without a struggle. It has always been a long and rocky road to better working conditions. For these workers this clause may not make a broad, smooth, and

road was reached making this a Union shop. The agreement called for an immediate 10 per cent increase with an additional 5 per cent increase on the first Monday in October. The hours were set from 34 to 40.

The agreement with the A & B Brooming Co. calls for an immediate increase of 8 per cent for all piece workers and an increase of not less than \$1.00 for week workers. The hours were reduced to 40 per week.

The workers of Seigel Bros. of South River, making pajamas and cotton dresses, received an increase of 5 per cent and a reduction of hours to 40 per week.

## Organizers Praised

For the success achieved so far in this organization campaign, due credit must be given, not only to the clear-headed supervision of Simon Baumgard, but to the work of



These Girls Decided That the Valmor Undergarment Company, Passaic, N. J., Wasn't Taking Their Demands for Better Conditions Seriously. They Walked Out of the Plant July 30 in Solid Array; Kept a Solid Picket Line; and Walked Back Into the Shop—Victors.

## 7 Cotton Strikes; 4 Settled Quickly

We have reported that in connection with the drive inaugurated by the Dress Joint Board to organize the cotton garment shops, the Out-of-Town Department had many arrangements to conduct a simultaneous drive. As the result of this drive we called seven strikes, four of which have been settled. In these settled shops we have obtained \$11 and \$12 increases for the piece workers and a reduction in the number of working hours.

## 6 Silk Dress Strikes

We are also conducting six strikes in the silk dress line in connection with the organization of jobbers for whom those striking shops are working.

**HARRIET DRESS, ELIZABETH, N. J.**—This shop was called on strike for organization on September 1 and the shop is being picketed. The strikers are in high spirits. Our organizer, Pete Detlefsen, is conducting the strike.

**CERRANO DRESS OF JERSEY CITY**—Declared on strike on August 25 in connection with the Gomez Dress, a non-union jobber. The shop is being picketed.

**EAGLE-BLOUSE, JERSEY CITY**—A non-union manufacturer. Declared on strike on August 31 and after striking for a week, the shop was settled by Wm. Ahman. The workers were granted all the union conditions.

**FLANK RABINOWITZ, HARRISON, N. J.**—This firm originally located in 25th Street, New York City, is engaged in the manufacture of bathrobes. Whenever the Union came to organize this shop, they found the employer as well as the employees against them. The firm decided to move the factory to Harrison, New Jersey, and quitting the Union. "Over there no one will bother my workers," his stream-

## DRESS FIRMS GET LONGEST NLRB CHARGE

The longest complaint ever to be issued by the National Labor Relations Board against the largest number of respondent firm was made public last week by Mrs. Elmore M. Herrick, regional director of the Board. The firms involved in alleged violations of the Wagner Labor Act are: Kappas Dress Co., Inc., Capital Garment Co. and the Kamah family, specifically, Izzy, Harry, Louis, Morris, Sol and Sarah Kamah, doing business jointly, and severally, under the names of New Model Dress, Manufacturing Co., Sara Dress Co., Sol Kamah, Sarah Kamah, Sally Dress Co., and Sally Garment Co.

The complaint issued by the National Labor Relations Board charges the respondents with having consistently refused to bargain collectively with the Union designated as agent by a majority of their employees and with having refused to reinstate their striking employees.

A hearing on these charges will be held shortly.

## SOUTH RIVER

A new local in the miscellaneous trades is being built in the South River territory. Under the supervision of Simon Baumgard, manager of Local 156, five shops have already been signed up with the Union, including the Knox All Leather Coat Co. of New Brunswick, Seigel Bros. of South River and the A & B Brooming Co. of New Brunswick.

The five shops employing over 400 workers, come within the fold of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. These 400 workers have gained immediate benefits for themselves and insured themselves greater benefits in the future.

Aside from immediate increases in wages and a shortening of hours from 44 to 40 hours a week, Brother Baumgard lectured a class

paved highway out of the road, but it certainly will remove some of the rocks along the way.

## Firings Bring Strike

In the Knox All Leather Coat Co. of New Brunswick, making snow suits, two of the workers were discharged for signing cards authorizing the Union to represent them. The workers of the shop were called out on strike and responded 100 per cent to the call of the Union. After nine days, an agree-

ment was reached making this a Union shop. The agreement called for an immediate 10 per cent increase with an additional 5 per cent increase on the first Monday in October. The hours were set from 34 to 40.

The agreement with the A & B Brooming Co. calls for an immediate increase of 8 per cent for all piece workers and an increase of not less than \$1.00 for week workers. The hours were reduced to 40 per week.

The workers of Seigel Bros. of South River, making pajamas and cotton dresses, received an increase of 5 per cent and a reduction of hours to 40 per week.

For the success achieved so far in this organization campaign, due credit must be given, not only to the clear-headed supervision of Simon Baumgard, but to the work of

## MANCHESTER CLOAK STRIKERS STILL AT GRIPS WITH ELLIS FIRM

Bromley Co. Strike At  
Maybrook, N. Y., Goes  
On.

Reports issued by Vice-President George Rubin, manager of the Cloak Out-of-Town Department, indicate active progress in two of the major strikes recently called under the banner of this department. Having his view on his daily contact with local officers in charge of the up-State engineers and on his personal observations of the strikers' spirit and discipline, Brother Rubin reports a uniform opinion on the part of the workers that fights will for a successful outcome.

More than 75 per cent of the 200 workers of the Independent Cloak Co. at Manchester, Conn., are on the picket line surrounding that factory and the percentage is increasing daily. Recent action against the black-handed methods of J. J. Ellis, reputed anti-union "runaway" employer and originator of the "Childs" type of shop, continues to mount as the strike goes on. Using every tactic of intimidation, coercion and force in his attempt to prevent organizing of the firm, Ellis has caused a reaction of unbridledness among the employees that has enormously increased the stubbornness of their

resistance to his efforts.

An inviolable non-picket line demonstrates daily. Despite indiscriminate arrests by an apparently unfriendly State police, the enthusiasm of these demonstrations does not wane. The Union has, at the same time, employed legal efforts to break the shop. Appointments of both parties before the State Board of Arbitration and Mediation, however, have no fruit. Likewise, the charges pressed before the National Labor Relations Board for Ellis' violations of the Wagner Act have as yet not reached decision.

The strike against the Bromley Coat Co. at Maybrook, New York, is progressing the last ten weeks, continues in full force. Refusing to grant a union scale or union hours, this firm has an extended history of evasion, leaving one territory after another after discovery by the Union in each case.

In the opinion of Vice-President Rubin, "both these strikes have as yet to reach their climax." Although in each case the conduct of the strikers is most inspiring and the strikes progress well from stage to the next, it is premature to expect a quick conclusion. Once and for all we shall break the anti-union spirit of these employers, but only after a prolonged conflict.



# S and RECREATION



## Can Labor Revue Be A Real Laugh Show?

By Leo Mason

Is it possible for a working class musical revue to be entertaining?

Most people, remembering the propaganda plays of the old school and not having any standard whereby to measure this new form, would say "No" to that question.

A musical is a musical, they would say, and cannot be mixed with propaganda without becoming corrupted in the process. Imagine

Union, believe that any play with propaganda in it, whether straight drama or a musical, is doomed to failure beforehand.

These people will be among the converts to the cause of a musical revue with a working class twist when "Pins and Needles," aired by Harold Rome, Arthur Arenst, Marc Blüstein, and Emanuel Eisenberg, all prominent in the field of the labor musical, opens at Labor Stage next month. After all, the Broadway commercial theatre does not have a monopoly on the musical revue form. Men like Rome and Blüstein have not only entered this form of entertainment but have intelligent and witty observations on society to contribute.

In the forefront of those supporting the idea of a more up-to-date musical, a kind of modernized "Oh, Yes! I Sing," is Louis Schaffer, manager of Labor Stage, Inc., Long a newspaperman and a student of labor problems, Mr. Schaffer believes that "The worker does not want to be treated as a worker when he comes to the theatre. He doesn't want to listen to sermons on the class struggle, usually by playwrights who know less about the subject than he does; he wants to be entertained. Whatever else you may say about the movies, no one can deny that they know their business. They give their audiences what they want."

### Dull? No!

Mr. Schaffer added:

"If we take over the technique of Hollywood and adapt it to our purposes, there is no reason to believe that we should be less successful than they. We are equipped to give the workers song and dance shows. The creative talent is available and there is plenty of material in the headlines of the news papers. Incidentally, I believe that the topical musical revue is one way of getting around the criticism that all working class plays are inevitably 'monotonous' and 'serious' charge that a well-known theatre reported recently levelled at the labor theatre. 'Pins and Needles' will confound such critics by the very novelty of its approach, if for no other reason."

With these ideas in mind, Mr. Schaffer called upon Charles Friedman, lately of the Theatre Union, to direct the show. He asked Harold Rome, composer of "Men Awake," to write the lyrics and music, Marc Blüstein, of "The One With Rock" fame, Emanuel Eisenberg and Arthur Arenst to do sketches. With Benjamin Zenach, choreographer of "The Eternal Road," doing the work of creating dance routines for the revue, and with R. Styria designing the sets, "Pins and Needles" should be an all-around show—useful, frolicsome, fast-moving and professional in appearance. Fifty members of the HLGWU Players will figure in the play.

## Dates to Watch

**SEPTEMBER 18**  
Baseball doubleheader at Spring-  
field Recreation Field, Long  
Island City, N.Y. J.B. (ACWA),  
vs. Local 89 (ILGWU), 1 P.M.;  
Local 10 (ILGWU), vs. Big 4  
(ACWA), 3:30 P.M. For bene-  
fit ALP.

**SEPTEMBER 19**  
N.Y. ILGWU All Stars vs. Phil.  
J.B. on Diamond A, Centrai  
Park, at 1 P.M.

**SEPTEMBER 25**  
ILGWU Church singing at Local  
60 Celebration, Carnegie Hall.

**SEPTEMBER 25**  
Baseball doubleheader at Spring-  
field Recreation Field, L.I. City.  
Winners of elimination games  
played on September 11 and 18,  
at 1 P.M. and Big 4 (ACWA),  
vs. Local 10 (ILGWU), at 3:30  
P.M. Benefit ALP.

## Basketball Practice

The week of Monday, September 25, will crown Basketball king of labor sports for HLGWU locals.

During that week, the first practice sessions of all the basketball teams in New York will begin and it looks as if there will be at least four more teams on the field this year.

Last year there were nine teams in the men's division and a like number in the women's division. It is apparent that the men's division will consist of an even dozen quite while the girls' division will have at least one new addition.

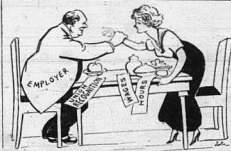
The official opening of the HLGWU Basketball Fall will begin sometime during the middle of November.

## Soccer Season Opening Set for October 10

With the entry of Local 25 Clock Pressers in the soccer practice, a league of six local teams has been set to get off to an auspicious start. Sunday, October 10, at the James Monroe Field, 127th Street and Boynton Avenue, Bronx, The opening kickoff is scheduled for 1:00 P.M.

All teams have been practicing hard for the past month, and the indications are that the teams will be playing a much faster brand of ball than they displayed last year and the year before.

### "No, Dearie—Anything But This!"



## Labor World Watches Baseball Carnival

By MSH Spino

All eyes of the labor athletic world for the next three weeks will be turned to the Trade Union Baseball Carnival which opened last Saturday, September 11, at Recreation Park, Long Island City, with a doubleheader between the Furriers' Joint Council against Local 158, ACWA, in the opener and the ILGWU Cutters' Union, Local 10, matching their vaunted brand of ball against Local Big Four, ACWA Cutters, champions in the Amalgamated Baseball League.

On September 18, our own Local 89 picked team of the three branches vied with the New York Joint Board ACWA, picked team. In the first game to be followed by the Cutters of the ILGWU and the ACWA in their second encounter.

### Trophy Play-off

The third Saturday, the winners of the first game of September 11 and the 18 will play off for a trophy, and Locals 10 and Big Four play their third encounter, and the team that comes away with two of the three games will have earned a handsome trophy and the right to be called the best labor union baseball team in New York.

Murray Weinstein, manager of Local Big Four, who is the chairman of Games Committee, reports that there has been a tremendous advance sale, and the biggest crowd in the history of labor sports will be on hand for these acts of games.

The set proceeds realized will be donated to the American Labor Party branch office, and you are asked to do your part by arriving on September 11, 18, and 25.

### La Guardia There

Many prominent figures in the labor movement, and quite a few candidates running for office under the emblem of the ALP have been invited and have promised to attend.

tened. Murray Weinstein is to accept of a letter from Mayor La Guardia, who has promised to appear in an appearance on one of the three days.

The winners of the various baseball championships in League competition will be presented with their League trophies during the course of these games. The team to be honored are Locals 10 and 89 (Winners of the ILGWU); Local Big Four of the ACWA; Local 228 of the Building Service Trade, and Local 14858 (Plaintiffs) winners of the New Jersey ILGWU championship.

### Local 149-50 Downs Phila. Joint Board

On August 28, Local 149-50, Plaintiffs, traveled out to Philadelphia to tackle the strong Phila. Joint Board team who had been bombarding the office of Louis Schaffer, with all sorts of challenges and defies.

After a thrilling encounter the New Jersey nine walked away with the game by the score of 6 to 1, tallying four runs in the eighth inning to seal down their victory.

Chunks, Philadelphia's star second baseman, again came through with a stirring performance, fanning three men, and holding his opponents to only seven scattered at-bats.

Most of the thrills and leapt thrills were reserved for the last half of the ninth when with two out and three runs in the run, the Phila. team filed the last by virtue of a walk and two batted search singles. The next batter drove a fast liner which was ticketed for two bases, but Spring, the second baseman for Phila., came over on roller skates, snatched a beautiful one-hand catch that retired the side, and saved the game for his team.

### N. Y. All-Stars Book Philly

The challenge of the Philadelphia Joint Board to play the New York ILGWU All-Stars has been accepted. Similarly, September 15, has been set aside as the day of the game which will be held at the Parade Grounds in Prospect Park, Brooklyn, on Diamond No. 1 at 1:00 P.M.

The Phila. team contends that the Philadelphia team could throw them on an off-day, and are sure that they will give a better account of themselves in this second encounter.

How many stitches can a machine operator make per minute?

The replies to this and other questions are in "The Women's Garment Industry."

How great is the difference between the retail and wholesale price of a dress? "The Women's Garment Industry" has the figures.



CHARLES FRIEDMAN, director of "Pins and Needles," this year shot through with gray. He learned his stuff with the Theatre Union, has actresses like "Miss Strawn" and "Mother" to his credit in various dramas, and ventured in technique of musical revue at Summer camps and hotels, spent 4 summers at swank resorts but finds he learned nothing about resort life until he started spending weekends at Unity this Summer...

"You Can't Have Everything" and "The Show Is On" sporting a message!

And yet that is precisely what "Pins and Needles," the forthcoming musical offering of Labor Stage, Inc., will do. It accepts the form of the popular American revue wholeheartedly, feeling that 32 million people can't be wrong, and yet does not forsake its intention of getting a strong labor message across the footlights.

### Something New

The reason why the idea of a working class musical revue is accepted with such difficulty is that, the Theatre Guild production of "Parade" excepted, no one has ever attempted to put it into concrete form. Pioneering is always hazardous. Critics are conservative, liking the old ways best. In addition, the unthinking, reflecting on the demise of the Theatre

# REGISTER NOW

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Registration Closes Oct 1 or 1st



## New Training Courses

Training - for - trade - union - service will be of increasing importance on our Fall program in the light of the recommendation made by the General Executive Board and approved by the last Convention. We quote the recommendation and the discussion from the official minutes:

"An applicant for a paid office in the ILGWU, who has not previously served, shall not be qualified to run as a candidate unless he or she shall first have completed a satisfactory course of training conducted or approved by the Educational Department of the ILGWU, in localities where such courses are available."

The comment of the GEB was: "There is no excuse why any applicant for a paid office in our Union should fail to receive the training which the Educational Department is ready and able to give. The Educational Department at convenient hours and places, is endeavoring to make it possible for all to receive such training. In addition to furnishing mass instruction in large numbers, it is actively engaged for giving special training, where it is possible, to members who are ambitious to become officers or executives. More intelligent officers mean a stronger, better-administered union, and the more we can expect from candidates in that they take advantage of the courses which the Union is generously placing at their disposal."

President Dubinsky added: "In localities where educational departments are functioning, the candidate for important service should be disqualify unless he or she has taken a course or that he or she may be better equipped for Union service. That applies to all. We have no room for exceptions for which they are running. Paid officers will have to pass special examination beyond that provided for in our Constitution. They must, however, attend a course given by the Educational Department."

We feel sure that many of our locals will be in position to introduce this important topic into their Fall program. Indeed, many of them have already set up training courses for the members of their executive boards and active members.

### Good Teachers

Eddie Gluck, who will be in charge of the history class, knows the International intimately and has written and spoken widely. Her best known works are "A Life of John Mitchell" and "Introduction to the American Labor Movement." Miss Jarvis is well known to many

### ILGWU Makes Records



Popular Labor Songs on Both Sides of These Records Which May Be Obtained From ILGWU Educational Department.

of our students as an enthusiastic and effective teacher of her subjects. She is joint author with August Clemens of the popular "ABC of Parliamentary Law."

### Central Classes

We propose to run the following Central Classes at the Auditorium, 3 West 16th Street, New York City, beginning the week of September 25:

**MONDAY, 6:30 p.m.** - Training for Trade Union Service.

**TUESDAY, 6:30 p.m.** - History of the Unions in the Garment Trades, by Eddie Gluck.

**SATURDAY, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.** - Public Speaking and Parliamentary Law, by Rebecca Jarvis.

As before, for the Training for Trade Union Service classes we shall ask our organizers and experts to deal with their specialties. Each student must be endorsed by his local. An additional class for advanced students will be held on Wednesday night if necessary.

## Chicago Planning 4 Class Divisions

Stacy, Jacques of Chicago, reflected by her trip to Mexico, is back on the job with outings and institutes planned for September and classes starting in October. She is dividing her class program into four parts this year to make it more adaptable to the demands of the members.

A class in labor economics will be provided for the more advanced students. The students who have been to the summer school and who were active in last year's classes are giving great assistance in recruiting.

## Fellowship Meets For Pageant Plans

The New York ILGWU Blindfold Fellowship will meet on Saturday, September 25, to make preliminary arrangements for the festival dance and pageant to be held on December 4. The meeting will begin at 1 P.M. at the Auditorium, 3 West 16th Street.

Interested members are invited to come and bring suggestions. Those who wish to take part should get in touch immediately with the arrangements committee through the Educational Department. This committee now consists of the Fellowship Executive Board and members who attend the various activities. Local 10, Glendale, New York, has been asked to appoint three members each in the committee to make the festival a truly representative affair.

### Fine Response

The festival, which will be held at the Century Hotel, will be held in the afternoon and evening affair with a social meeting. The number of rehearsals will be kept at a minimum so that the participants will still have to devote a great deal of time to preparation. The response already received has been very enthusiastic.

**REMEMBER:** The date of the festival, December 4, the place: the large hall of the Century Hotel, 308 West 42nd Street, New York City.

**EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT**  
Mark Star, Director  
Fanni M. Cohn, Secretary  
Lillian Schaffer, Supervisor  
Cultural and Recreation Division

## Centers Opening Early Next Month

Yes, our New York social and educational centers will be re-opened in October. This information is in reply to the inquiries that we receive daily.

Those who have attended our five centers will never forget the enjoyable evenings they spent there and the knowledge they gained through the educational program. They remember that it is in our centers where they sing, dance, play and think.

We invite our members to come to our Educational Department, 3 West 16th Street, with their suggestions how to make these centers still better and how to reach the largest numbers of members.

## Many Topics Covered in ILGWU Pamphlets

Economies of the garment industry is a "natural" for our locals and our pamphlet of that title will be of material assistance.

Comprehension involves an increasing interest and we can secure lecturers and teachers on this topic and, here again, the pamphlet by Harry Lande and Wallace Campbell will come in handy.

Events in Spain and the Far East will be undoubtedly discussed in our current events classes and will lead on to classes on Fascism and Imperialism.

The repeated attacks upon the unions by the Liberty League and its allies and the side-spread cry denouncing incorporation will also demand some treatment. We have some good syllabus material prepared by teachers in labor problems, the story of our union, and the history of the general labor movement.

## New Institute Plan Appeals to Locals

Instead of taking our members to Brookwood, we propose to take the teachers to the centers in which the members live by a series of local institutes. These will be, for a weekend or even a day in duration.

Any local interested is urged to write at once.

Particularly in New Jersey, Connecticut and Massachusetts we hope to cover a large number of new locals and thus introduce them to the educational work.

### Special Rate for Book

We sent a sample copy of "Labor's Challenge," an inspiring pictorial record of the American labor movement, to all our locals with an offer of a special rate for quantity orders. Local 160, Milwaukee, bought 200 copies to distribute and Local 40 also distributed it to its active members. We hope that our teachers will utilize it as a text for courses on "The Labor Movement Today." It deserves a place on all our reading tables.

## Our Students Speak

Some idea of what our scholarship students gained may be obtained from the following reports.

### Chicago Worker

**SYLVIA MANLOFF, CHICAGO JUNE BOARD:** "The six weeks I spent at the Summer School for workers in 1-2-story at Wisconsin I literally have been my most outstanding experience... gives me new perspectives, stimulating both a mind and feelings. We learned some of the basic theory of economics... discussed the present day labor movement in relation to its past and speculated on its future. The theory course gave me some knowledge of the economic history of the world, making it easier to understand the present world situation, which we discussed and analyzed."

"We read and discussed books written about and for workers in our English classes, and tried to write of our own experiences. We got instruction and practice in public speaking and parliamentary law and learned both from our own attempts and from workers in our English classes, and tried to write of our own experiences. We got instruction and practice in public speaking and parliamentary law and learned both from our own attempts and from workers in our English classes, and tried to write of our own experiences."

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## Outings Include Many Trips to City Parks

These weekly Saturday afternoon outings are conducted by the Educational Department, with a competent director in charge.

**SEPT. 18, 1 p.m. - VAN CORTLANDT PARK:** 162 Broadway, 7th Ave. train to 162nd Street Station. Meet on street downstairs.

**SEPT. 25, 1 p.m. - FOREST PARK:** Take BMT Broadway Jamaica Line at Canal St. to Elders Lane Station. Meet on street downstairs.

**OCT. 2, 1 p.m. - INWOOD PARK:** 20th Ave. Subway "A" train to 80th St. Station. Meet on street upstairs.

## New Film Strip Shows Sewing Tools History

Following the successful use of the film strip, "Women's Wear Since the Ages," for introducing courses in the economics of the garment industry, we now have ready "The Tools and Shops of the Garment Industry."

This begins with the first basic needle and known implements, early shears and view-hatched press; linen and ends with a series of pictures covering all the processes and the elaborate machinery of today.

The early Howe machines of 1846 are compared to the modern machines capable of 3600 stitches a minute.

Would you like to be vocal in affairs of your local?

### Join Your Classes

the reading of books... More than anything else, it has taught me how much there is to learn and I am going to make no end just a beginning."

### Bayonne Benefits

**ANTONETTE TRICOLI, LOCAL 252:** "I am back in the shop, but at night I am doing some organizing work. I find the knowledge about trade unions that I acquired at Bay. Many, very helpful, I can talk to the people with more assurance, because I know what I'm talking about."

**RUBY KNIGHT, LOCAL 252, Memphis:** Had this in my local the Southern Summer School. "I want to thank you for the scholarship for I sure did learn here while there. As I am the secretary of our local, I learned how to take minutes, I also studied parliamentary law about which I know very little... We studied how to write news stories and what to read in a newspaper, and how laws are passed and the most important thing how to vote and what kind of men we need elected for office. The problem we have in the South is the relationship between the Negro and White. We must work with the Negroes and get them into our union before we can get anywhere."

### From Greensboro

**LUCY LEE HOLYFIELD, GREENSBORO, N. C.:** "The ILGWU students certainly do appreciate the scholarships that the Union has given us. We four garment workers at the Southern Summer School are going to be much better trade unionists than before. We have learned about trade union organization and how important it is to get workers organized especially in the South. I realize for the first time that we can't leave Negroes out of our organization. Our factory here in Greensboro is striking now for a contract. I feel united with a much better idea of how to help win this contract."

## Happy Picnicks



Abram Plotkin, General Organizer for the Central Illinois District, Gets "Surrounded" by a Gay, Jolly Picnic.

# Not All in the Hills is Mountain Music

The Story of Americans Who Work for Five Cents Per Hour.

By John S. Martin,  
General Organizer

"Mamma don't allow no bawl pickin' 'round here,  
No indeed, Mamma don't 'low no bawl pickin' 'round here."

The reason that mamma don't want any bawl pickin' is that the boys could be sniping a bedspread in their spare time and thus help to save a penny or two. For the candlewick bedspread industry has invaded the hills of Tennessee and given the whole family something to do other than picking string music and singing hillbilly songs. Authorities estimate that 40,000 people are now engaged in the candlewick bedspread industry in Alabama, Tennessee and Georgia. About 10,000 of them work in the factories that have been set up, the other 30,000 do homework.

Candlewick spreads are made by sewing in a design or pattern on a heavy cotton sheeting with a type of cotton cord formerly used as wicks in the making of home made candles. The design is followed with hasting stitches about three-quarters of an inch long using a heavy "salador" needle which is pushed through the cloth by a pad worn on the palm of the hand and pulled with the aid of a piece of

new material in this industry can tell a tale of some Aunt Martha, or Grandmamma Agatha, who is reputed to have made the very first candlewick spread. No two of the services fit together, although they still seem to run true or less to form. Some are romantic, to the effect that the first spread was made as a wedding present for some favorite girl relative who was about to marry the prize-winning "coon hunter" or other hillbilly "catch of the season." Other stories are distinctly religious; that Grandmamma had a vision in a dream showing her how she could save the cause of the Lord by giving the little hillbilly something to do other than picking string music and singing hillbilly songs. Whatever the truth may be, it is undoubtedly lost amid the unverified and unrecorded past that makes up the history of sacrifice and struggle that was the lot of America's pioneer women.

## First Gasp On Beds

The early settlers after American and antique furniture found the candlewick spread when they invaded the hills of Tennessee. They literally bought them off the beds and for a few years the business was done on this basis. Many a roadside home kept an extra candlewick spread on hand to put on the bed in the event that another car should stop and bring another shopper for antiques. Thus the candle for mountain "home-craft" had its start as each returning Florida tourist showed her friends back home the "perfectly ducky" bedspread she had bought on her way through Tennessee.

An ancient textile industry the candlewick bedspread is a distinct depression product. The dark shadow of unemployment and hunger which three millions of city workers into the breadlines and on the relief rolls, had its effect also on the hill folks of the South. The poverty and destitution left in the wake of a depression which almost wiped out the cotton grower and tenant farmer served but to ripen the harvest for a group of "exploiters" who descended on this country with a bedspread over their arm.

## Exploiters Invade Field

The same type of enterprising businessman who have always exploited the natural resources of America now came to exploit the human resources. Handmade spreads began to flow from the hills of the depression and the chief industry of this section. Here was something to do that would bring in the money needed to feed hungry children, and it was something which would ease the hungry workers' need to do. The business men welcomed the new industry with open arms, for here was a business that offered a happy combination of all that was needed, cheap and most important, it consumed cotton, offered a new market for the South's basic crop, and promised to use up part of that staggering surplus which was to the South the chief if not the only cause of the depression. It gave "money work" to the "white trash" and thus took the burden of relief off the taxpayers' back and what ever money was needed by the new industry was furnished by the "exploiters" from New York and eventually found its way into the cash drawers of the local states.

Salvation, independence, homework, all seemed to blend mysteriously in a common meaning. Thousands of farmers and hill country workers shown in a few days learned how to make bedspreads. Homework stations were set up in even the smallest towns and any really en-



Drying in the Sun After Washing Causes the "Candlewick" to Fluff.

terprising woman who lived on the roadside could make a triple profit. She and her family could "work" spreads themselves, she could serve as a "station agent" where neighbors would call for and deliver work for which she would receive a small commission, and she could hang out a line of spreads for sale to the passing tourist. Any man with any "get-up-and-go" him who also owned an old Ford could peddle homework to the families that lived too far off of the main roads. Such a man could build up a "route" delivering homework and picking up the finished spreads for which he charged the homeworker a small fee to be deducted from the price paid by the "operator" for the work. The prices paid were from ten to thirty cents per spread. Since the full development of the industry there has come competition and the prices are now from twenty to fifty cents per spread. The cheaper spreads with less work on them, that are sold to department stores for bargain days, are being made in mass production manner in the factories where from ten to fifteen cents per hour is being paid.

## Factories Come In

The industry blossomed and bloomed and genuine handmade candlewick bedspreads found their way into every department store and mail order catalog in America. What was once a "work of art and a joy forever," reserved exclusively for the small but appreciative group of our very best people, soon became the decorative "piece de resistance" of dollar hotels and dime-and-a-half-top cabins. This incredible sale of candlewick spreads brought about the necessity of steady supply and prompt delivery into the industry and prompted the factory system. To-day the larger "operators" in the industry have established factories where girls are hired by the hour to supplement and stabilize the continuity of production.

Vice-President, Chas. S. Zimmerman, of the ILGWU, who recently paid a short visit to the Bedspread Belt while on an inspection tour for the TWOC, says that the growth and development of this industry parallels and follows the same industrial pattern as that of the homework whitegoods industry in Puerto Rico. Zimmerman made a very extensive investigation in Puerto Rico of the exploitation of homeworkers and thought that the homework scheme and, in the American bedspread industry must have been started by people who learned the tricks in Puerto Rico. "Every step," he says, "is followed exactly and the net results here are the same: poverty, destitution, exploitation; child labor, ignorance and inferior, an endless chain of human misery which has as its end the same link as made its beginning."

## Summer Costs Sideline

Recently the bedspread industry has added a side line of spot coats which are made up with the same style of decoration and in the same manner. So far the cost market has not been as extensively exploited as has been the bedspread end of the business. However, the "stylish trend" may swing under the proper compulsion and the candlewick cost may become a fact which will throw 40,000 exploited home and factory workers into the Summer cost market. To see it that no such calamity befalls an organized and intelligent managed industry like the cost industry is today, the ILGWU is on the job now. The labor movement of the South has had a life and death struggle to keep its nose above water. The efforts needed to preserve the high standards which are current in the South have taken every last ounce of strength that the Southern labor movement could muster. There has been no time, no money, no effort that could be spared from the day-by-day fight for existence which would allow the Southern labor movement to go to the aid of the exploited bedspread workers.

The leaders of the Southern labor movement have been fully conscious of the conditions of the bedspread workers since the inception of that industry. They have known of the headwinds and dragdown these 40,000 exploited people have had on general working conditions in the South; of the constant threat and danger to any improvement in wages, hours and working conditions which exist from so many people living on the border line of starvation. But there has been nothing that the Southern labor movement could do about it, until the setting up of the TWOC with its financial aid and organizational assistance came to help.

## Workers Need Help

The TWOC has started now to help those exploited people of the bedspread industry. One contract has already been signed at Dalton, Georgia, which is one of the centers of this industry. Here where the wages in the bedspread factories are fifteen cents per hour, the union got a 22 1/2 per cent increase, raising the wages to twenty cents per hour. Now the firm that signed that agreement has run out of money. The factory has moved to Calhoun, Georgia, where they claim that they will get the full protection of all city officials against unions. Court proceedings have been started against this runaway shop. The factory has been called in to help and this shop may be brought back to Dalton and made to live up to its union agreement. But the big job is one of unionization. The story of unionization must be carried to these thousands of people. It is a job that must be done by the labor

movement, no one else will do it. These thousands of homeworkers who are toiling night and day for an average of five cents an hour must be liberated if any work and hour rule or law is ever to have any meaning and be anything but a piece of paper on which words are written.

The TWOC has started a job in this industry. A. Clyde Nance, head of the TWOC in the South, has had a warm spot in his heart for these poor people, because they are his people—those whom he knows and struggles to understand and whose suffering he feels because he is one of them. Brother Nance has led Brother Haloban, Georgia Director of the TWOC, to spare a moment every now and then from his momentary task of organizing the cotton mills of Georgia to give a helping hand to these bedspread workers, and Haloban is doing it. Joe Dobbs, the indomitable TWOC Director at Chattanooga, has put in a good lick at this industry in his territory, and many other TWOC people have done their bit.

## ILGWU Organizing

The ILGWU sent one of its Southern Organizers into Dalton, Georgia, at the request of Director Haloban, to help set up the local union in the shop that signed up. The little Georgia girl, Velma Hixon, whom many readers will re-



They Work Endless Hours Creating Beauty for Pitifully Small Pay.

member from the Atlanta City convention, went into Dalton and spent several weeks among the girls in the bedspread factories there. Now Velma Hixon is putting in a day or so there wherever she can spare the time from her work at Chattanooga. So the ILGWU is not only sending out a message of afflicting to lift up exploited people in the needle trades. No great glory here in the bedspread belt, no honors, no burials—just day-by-day work spreading the word of hope and faith and courage to a people who so sadly need it. Just the daily task of the ILGWU fulfilling its historic mission. And the job that always has and will bring pride to our living members and peace to our martyred dead.

## OUT-OF-TOWN GROUPS UNITY HOUSE GUESTS

The out-of-town choruses from Passaic, Bridgeton, Stamford, and New Haven and the ILGWU Madeline Orchestra will be the guests of the week-end of September 18-19 of Unity House. The invitation is issued for performers in these groups at the Atlanta City Convention of the ILGWU.



Open-Air "Sweetshop"

old rubber lingerie wrapped around the fingers. After the design has been "worked" or sewn which is cut with the point of a pair of scissors. This operation is called "snipping" and is given to the younger children or learners to do.

After "snipping" the spread appears as a heavy cotton sheet with short lengths of candlewick cord sticking through it in the form of the design or pattern "worked." After washing this soft candlewick cord stuffs up and forms small cotton balls which fill out the design and make up a very beautiful pattern. By using various colored spreads and cotton, and by double or triple-stitching many styles and effects are achieved which make up the more ornamental and expensive spreads.

## Early American Craft

The origin of the candlewick bedspread traces back to early American handcraft. Some of the best early examples were found among the hill folks of Tennessee where patient homeworkers worked on bedspreads for their own homes with the white cotton cord used in making homemade tallow candles. Every community has its lore about the origin of this art. Each of the many thousands of women



## NAZI LABOR STANDARDS; PROMISE AND FULFILLMENT

By Will Chasen

The resurgence of German nationalism which swept Hitler into power in March of 1933 followed two decades of intense psychological and physical suffering by the German people.

It was an impoverished and despairing middle class which submitted its hopes in the insane proposition of Fascism.

The workers who succumbed to Hitler's slogan of "Bread and Jobs for All" were those who had been rendered desperate by years of unemployment and slow starvation. They willingly bartered away their liberties for the promise of bread and security.

"Bread and Jobs for All," this was the Nazi promise.

What has the performance been?

AT FIRST glance it might appear that the performance has, at least, approximated the promise. Unemployment has declined in Germany; a thriving munitions industry has furnished jobs to millions. Income from salaries and wages has risen, the government tells us, from 24 billion marks in 1932 to 34.5 billion in 1935—a gain of 32 per cent. Retail sales are up, indicating increased mass purchasing power. Attendance at motion pictures and plays has registered important gains, apparently proof of the claim that German workers are able to spend more money on luxuries. The above, briefly, is the answer of Nazi apologists to the claim that the Hitler regime has been compensated by a pronounced deterioration in the economic and social position of German workers.

Are these figures correct? Has the average German workman's income increased since the advent of Hitler?

Examination reveals that the answer is a clear "No!" While total labor income has increased due to the reemployment of several million idle workers, individual wages have declined. In fact, investigation shows that reemployment of the jobless has taken place largely at the cost of those already employed. In 1936 the average worker's money wages were 3.7 per cent below the depression level of 1932. Workers were receiving less in 1936 than they had earned in the very depths of the depression.

BUT EVEN that figure does not give an accurate picture of conditions in Germany. The decline in real wages, or purchasing power, has been much greater due to the sharp rise in living costs, variously estimated at from 20 to 25 per cent. Competent observers hold that real wages in 1936 were fully 20 per cent below the 1932 averages.

An official agency of the Nazi government reports that average monthly earnings of a laborer in 1936 were \$21.09—approximately one dollar a day.

The increased purchasing power of which German propagandists boast is of course purely nominal. For example, it is claimed that during the first nine months of 1936 retail sales of clothing were 33 per cent above 1932 volume. Government statistics show, however, that half this gain was cancelled by a rise in prices. Moreover, since the need for uniforms of various kinds probably constituted a large part of this demand, it is not unlikely that civilian consumption of clothing actually declined.

INCREASED attendance at the theatres is due purely to government compulsion. The Workers' League and the "Kraft-Durch-Freude," both government sponsored agencies, distribute tickets from the shops and offices, to and for non-purchasing volunteers.

The cost is deducted from the worker's wages at the end of the week.

Under these circumstances it is easy to understand why German theatres have large audiences. The German theatre has been converted into a propaganda agency which explains, in part, why workers are compelled to attend. Theatre fees are really a tax extorted by the government.

EVIDENCE of the extremely low living standards of the German workers is furnished by the Winter Relief Service Records which indicate that 15 million German people—the total population is 68 million—applied for relief last winter. Hitler called upon the German people to demonstrate their patriotism by saving their potato patches and other left-overs for the Winter Relief agencies which would distribute them among the needy. Potato patches, he failed to point out, are hardly part of a proper Aryan diet.

Newspapers carry repeated reports of food shortages. Butter and cream are practically unobtainable by any save those in the high income brackets. There is only a limited supply of fats and meats. Fresh eggs are very scarce. A poor wheat crop is expected this year and a bread shortage is not improbable.

Tough taxes have increased considerably—deductions for Winter Relief, Labor Front and other assessments amount to some 25 per cent of average earnings—so that insurance benefits have been heavily curtailed.

THE DOWNWARD movement of wages has been accompanied by increases in the length of the working day. The Nazi trustees of labor have decreed a 46-hour week in the Ruhr district. In 16,572 establishments inspected by Labor Front officials only 2 per cent of the workers employed worked less than 40 hours per week. 59 per cent worked 48 hours and 27 per cent more than 48 hours.

In Germany, all labor is strictly regulated. Labor passports have been introduced and workers who try to change their jobs without government permission are often liable to severe punishment. Strikes and all independent labor organizations are illegal.

Hitler, speaking before the last session of his puppet Reichstag,

boasted of the "powerful labor conditions" prevalent in Germany. The reason for it, he explained, was that German toilers were "working according to the highest law—namely, the law of common sense." To the extent that the "highest law" consists of suffering in silence rather than in striking, Hitler is undoubtedly correct.

Yet, though overt acts are few and the fiction of harmony is maintained, there are indications of deep ferment among German workers. They resent the scarcity of food and the ever rising price level. Hitler may repudiate German war guilt but national glory is this stuff for empty stomachs. "Bread or Death," he told German workers last May Day. There is still another alternative but the restoration of German democracy is a formidable task and present prospects hold up a vision rather than a promise.

## THE "SPANISH EARTH"

Joris Ivens' "Spanish Earth," whose runs has just been extended to the new Squire Theatre, 6415 Street and 8th Avenue, is a masterful piece of camera reporting.

Taken on the spot, without actors or staged effects, Ivens' film produced with the help of his close collaborator, Ernest Henning way, began its run some three weeks ago at the 15th Street Film House, drawing capacity audiences. The photography is superb. Using the Spanish peasants' recognition of their land and their realization of applying Madrid with bread, as his main theme, Ivens presents a story of truth and consequence.

The admission has been reduced to regular trade union rates. It is a film no worker, no friend of Spanish freedom should miss.

"I bet if they dressed all soldiers in overalls, there soon would be no more wars."—EDNA FERREN, novelist.

## ATTENTION MEMBERS OF LOCAL 10

Membership meeting will not be held on Monday, Sept. 27, 1937, because of Holidays.

The Next Regular Membership Meeting will be held on MONDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1937 in MANHATTAN OPERA HOUSE 34th St. and 8th Ave.

All members are urged to attend without fail.

## 4 ROWS OF TUCKING

A Story by  
Florence Lasser

"Kindly look at me when I'm talking to you."

Mrs. Foss raised his eyebrows, and without removing his eyes from his newspaper intoned slowly, just as before unthinkingly that he did not intend to be ordered about. Then he placed his finger at the end of the sentence he proceeded to complete, emitted his breath rapidly with a faint hissing sound, and raised his gaze to be level of his wife's.

"If you paid a little less attention to the stock market, you might—mind you, I say you might—have a little more about what's going on in the shop."

Folding his newspaper with a great show of resignation, tinged very discreetly with forbearance, Mr. Foss shoved his plate aside. The fact that it was empty detracted somewhat from the effort of martyrdom he was trying to produce.

THE CONTENTANCE on which Mr. Foss' eyes had come so reluctantly to rest was of the type which is apt to prove stimulating to insatiable reading over the breakfast table. In fact, the various gentleman lay with whom Mrs. Henrietta Borden, now Mrs. Foss, came in contact in the course of her efficiently budgeted days were inclined, after a drink or two in the rose and cream shower room, with a glance at her well-corseted figure vanishing behind a partition, to comment on her magnetism, and on her remarkable state of preservation.

At eight in the morning, however, the first inkling of which the preservation had been arrested, and the admiration accomplished, seemed particularly marked. And Mr. Foss was only too acutely aware that the preconcerted varied and costly amusements was not for his delinquency. For Mrs. Foss was a member of that sturdy band of women which, of necessity, learns a lesson early in life, and practices it to the end: "with fastidious grooming, even a homely woman can be appealing."

MRS. FOSS, exuded immovably by the harsh and brittle voice issuing from the lips of the woman opposite, shyly comforted himself with the recollection of a remark overheard the evening before. "I bet one of the dancers had snickered, 'I'll bet she even goes to sleep with her corset on.'"

"It's about time you recalled that the girls are leaving whatever respect they did have for you."

"And of course," countered Mrs. Foss, "you've decided that it's my fault."

"Mrs. Henrietta Borden—or rather, Mrs. Foss—folded her napkin and rose to her imperiously grounded height.

"It might amuse you to know," she said, brushing a few crumbs from her black satin hips, "that I



"Four Tucks I Said, . . ."

overheard one of the models refer to you yesterday as Mrs. Henrietta Borden. Oh, it was quite unintentional, of course, but it just goes to show."

"What does it go to show, may I ask? Perhaps it was the August heat, perhaps it was a momentary temptation to probe the situation to its ultimate depths, perhaps it was only Henrietta's bright red nails, tipped with pollen and precision two sets of plump lips, which toyed with the clinician's buckle at her waist. But of all possible responses, it was the one most completely to the satisfaction of Henrietta Borden, supreme and Incorporated.

"It goes to show, my dear, that as a husband you're evidently a bit—pardon me, a rotten member. And I'll ask you to remember that I can always be seen as Manager. There are plenty to be had, cheap."

"Too had there aren't so many husbands floating around," said Mr. Foss. But he said it softly, like the drag of his coffin. And then, with a sudden change in the furrow and kindly lines, anyway, he added, "...cheap."

FIFTY minutes later, Mr. Foss saw the name "Mrs. Henrietta Borden" swiftly divide in two, as the white-gloved hand of his living counterpart, brazenly separated the lacquered portals leading into the establishment. In the wake of her patent leather heels, he entered the carpeted showroom just in time to avoid a blow from the door as it swung back in agitation. There were the remaining whips of machines, the deeply satisfactory sight of a hundred female heads—blonde heads, red heads, black and brown, and grey—Sat heads bent, vulnerable. Better that way than over a breakfast table. At his entrance, heads rose but were quickly lowered again.

Mr. Foss walked over to machine 7, and lifted, with an air of growing interest, the garment slowly and smoothly gliding from under the needle.

"Run four rows of tucking down this skirt, instead of six," he said, raising his voice above the hum of the power.

A pair of brown eyes looked up in surprise, and a pair of lips shaped in a question-mark prepared for protest, paused.

"Mrs. Borden said—"

"FOUR ROWS, I SAID! FOUR!"

Mr. Foss, not without surprise, found himself shouting. And then, with complete abandon, he added, "TH SHOW you she's been—"

## Kings County ALP Swings Into N. Y. Campaign



Beneath the Banners, Aisle Parades, Bands and Noise Makers of the Kings County American Labor Party Convention Held August 12 at Coney Island, Was the Serious Business of Unimbering Labor's Power for Independent Political Action in New York City's Largest Borough. (486 Acres) Delegate, including Several Hundred ILGWU Members, Attended. (Photo by S. Kay)

# ...EDITORIAL NOTES...

## How Near Is Labor Peace?

Peace in the labor movement in America will come eventually. Why not now?

Time and again we've heard this question posed in the past few months. Rational people, on either side, we are told, realize that this fraternal strife cannot go on forever without inflicting irreparable damage upon the status of labor generally. Why not bring this conflict to an end?

On surface appearance, the trade union movement hasn't suffered from the split within its ranks. In point of fact, numerically the membership in organized labor has nearly doubled since the early part of 1936 when the Committee for Industrial Organization first took the field. And the growth hasn't been all on the side of CIO. The American Federation of Labor, roused as if from a state of semi-sopor, has recently gone ahead making gains in a number of industries.

To the bystander, this status of "living happily apart" might even appear as a sort of peaceful arrangement, with the craft unions staying on with the AFL while the CIO would continue to expand in the mass production industries without crossing paths at sharp angles. Those, however, who are closer to the body and soul of the labor movement know perfectly well that the house of labor cannot for long stand divided. Division is a poison which saps, de vitalizes and disintegrates. The longer it lasts, the more rancor, jurisdictional snarls and tangles it creates.

Few will deny that the labor movement in America would benefit immensely if it were united today instead of divided into two opposing camps.

But peace, if and when it comes in the labor movement, should not be a makeshift affair or a device reached at the sacrifice of principle. At the bottom of the present disunity in the labor movement lies a conflict of principle and policy, and unless that principle is conceded peace would not be lasting or worthwhile.

That principle is the indisputable right of workers in the mass production industries to organize their unions on an industrial base without being challenged by the craft organizations. The past year and a half have proven that the workers in the mass production industries can and should organize their unions on an industrial basis.

Our Union, which was among the first unions to affiliate with the CIO, has gone into this movement without a trace of selfish motives. We are not a mass production industry, and we never had any jurisdictional conflicts with any of the unions affiliated with the AFL during all the 36 years that we belonged to it. For us it was not a matter of gaining new industries or strengthening our position in our own industry. Our Union joined in the CIO movement because of the principle and the idealism involved in it. Long before the CIO was torn our membership preached the theory and practice of industrial unionism.

Yet, as earnest and devoted as we are to the principles of CIO and ready to make our contribution and sacrifices in its behalf, just as anxious is the

overwhelming majority of our membership for a united labor movement in America. In our case, it must be realized too, it has been a tradition of two generations of working and struggling as a progressive union within the American Federation of Labor. That's why our convention last May, while reaffirming our bond with the CIO and while supporting its cause and struggles to the limit of our capacity, nevertheless, instructed our officers to use every opportunity for being helpful in bringing about a unity of forces in American labor.

It would be unmitigated optimism, nevertheless, to assert that there are signs of peace on the labor horizon.

To the contrary, it would seem that the forces which brought about the division by their blind and narrow policies with regard to the workers in the mass production industries, have not learned a thing in the past eighteen months. They are still unwilling to concede to these millions of workers the fundamental right to function in industrial unions without being hampered or challenged by jurisdictional claims or demands.

Essentially, therefore, not an iota has been altered in the attitude of both opposing camps. "Invitations" to come to conventions with "full rights," or periodical "scoops" in the press, are so much stand-pat froth and foam. There'll have to be a change of heart besides a change of words to impress the sincerity of a desire for peace. And this desire for peace will have to be translated into action that will leave no room for doubt that the men who are determined to bring unity in the labor movement are equally ready to make the necessary sacrifice and concessions to achieve it.

## A Taste of Their Own Medicine

Berwick is a small place in Pennsylvania right outside the anthracite district. They build cars, weave silk and make undergarments in that town.

Until four months ago Berwick "prided" itself on not having a union shop in town. The ILGWU first came into its untamed precincts in July, when it organized, after a short strike, a sizable undergarment factory. It was followed by the CIO, which unionized the big American Car and Foundry Works. Later, the Duplan Silk mill in Berwick became tied up in the textile campaign.

This trade union avalanche apparently so unnerfed the "respectables" in Berwick that when our Union declared in August another strike in a children's dress factory they decided to "crack down" upon the workers. The Berwick police swooped down on three women pickets, threw them into the local coop and then decided to put them under ten thousand dollars bail each. The charges against the girls ran from "mass" picketing to "talking back" to a cop.

This outburst of Berwick police initiative left the Union for a few hours helpless and stunned. Then, it decided to match wits with the Berwick brain-trusters. Our attorneys, namely, swore out warrants for false arrest against the Berwick "law and order" boys in blue and arrested them.

A "sympathetic" grand jury, in the meantime, hurriedly has absolved the five Berwick bluecoats of any guilt of lawlessness in the jailing of the three girl strikers. The Union, however, is still to have its legal innings in this matter. At any rate, the funny taste of their own medicine in the mouths of these Berwick union-busters should linger for some time to come.

## Nagler's Campaign In The Bronx

In the Bronx, New York's second greatest and fastest growing borough, with a population larger than that of Los Angeles, they insist that after November 2, the Cloak Joint Board will need a new general manager.

To such readers of this journal, outside New York City, as are unfamiliar with the current sizzlings of the red-hot political platter in the metropolis of the East, an explanatory word is needed. Vice-President Isidore Nagler, who runs the administrative destiny of the New York Cloak Joint Board, is the nominee of the American Labor Party for presidency of the Borough of the Bronx. Brother Nagler has also re-

## Right Hand Knows What Left Hand Does



ceived the pledge of support from all the fusion forces in that borough.

To Vice-President Nagler the Labor Party has allotted, by virtue of this nomination, a huge task. Nagler won his political spurs last year, in the first campaign of the American Labor Party, by dint of inexhaustible energy and by a display of first-rate organizational talent. His chances for election this year, in a borough populated overwhelmingly by wage-earners and white-collar and middle class voters, are conceded, by seasoned political observers, to be excellent.

But, in order to win against an entrenched political machine, Nagler will have to receive more than passive support by ILGWU members and by members of other trade unions residing in the Bronx Borough. He will need the organized assistance of all labor groups, all anti-Tammany elements bent on the reelection of Mayor La Guardia, and of all progressive elements who have fused their forces with the Labor Party for the final ousting of Tammany from the seat of power in the Greater City.

The American Labor Party is set for a dynamic campaign in all boroughs of New York immediately after the primaries are over. The Bronx, largely because of Nagler's nomination, will be one of the hottest centers of this campaign. Every member and friend of the ILGWU residing in the Bronx should contribute his or her utmost to the American Labor Party's drive for success. Isidore Nagler's election to the borough presidency must be made certain!

## Educational "Season" Will Start Soon

Shortly, the educational "season" in ILGWU will resume throughout the

width and breadth of the land.

It is a safe bet that these activities, both in curriculum and attendance, will eclipse in 1937-1938 all former records, surging ahead with the same year-after-year regularity since 1933 when the ILGWU, emerging from the depression era, swung into big-time educational work.

The most refreshing thing about this work of education, perhaps, is the fact that it is not confined to any section, city or district. Interest in it is just as alive in the Pennsylvania coal towns where we have local as it is in the South, the Midwest, or in New York.

The problem before our educational directors now, it seems, is not how to reach the mass of the members but how to feed this ever-growing interest and sustain it in steady high gear. Gradually, too, our educators are solving the old difficulty which used to baffle them in the past, — the question as to whether individual member training or mass education rated greater stress and preferment in meeting the essential objectives of the educational activity within the Union. The answer to this problem obviously is to be found not on the extreme side of either viewpoint. Mass education should be balanced with individual training if we are to get most painful results.

## City Labor Builds

